

7-2013

Digest of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Summer 2013)

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.pcom.edu/digest>



Part of the [Medical Education Commons](#), and the [Osteopathic Medicine and Osteopathy Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

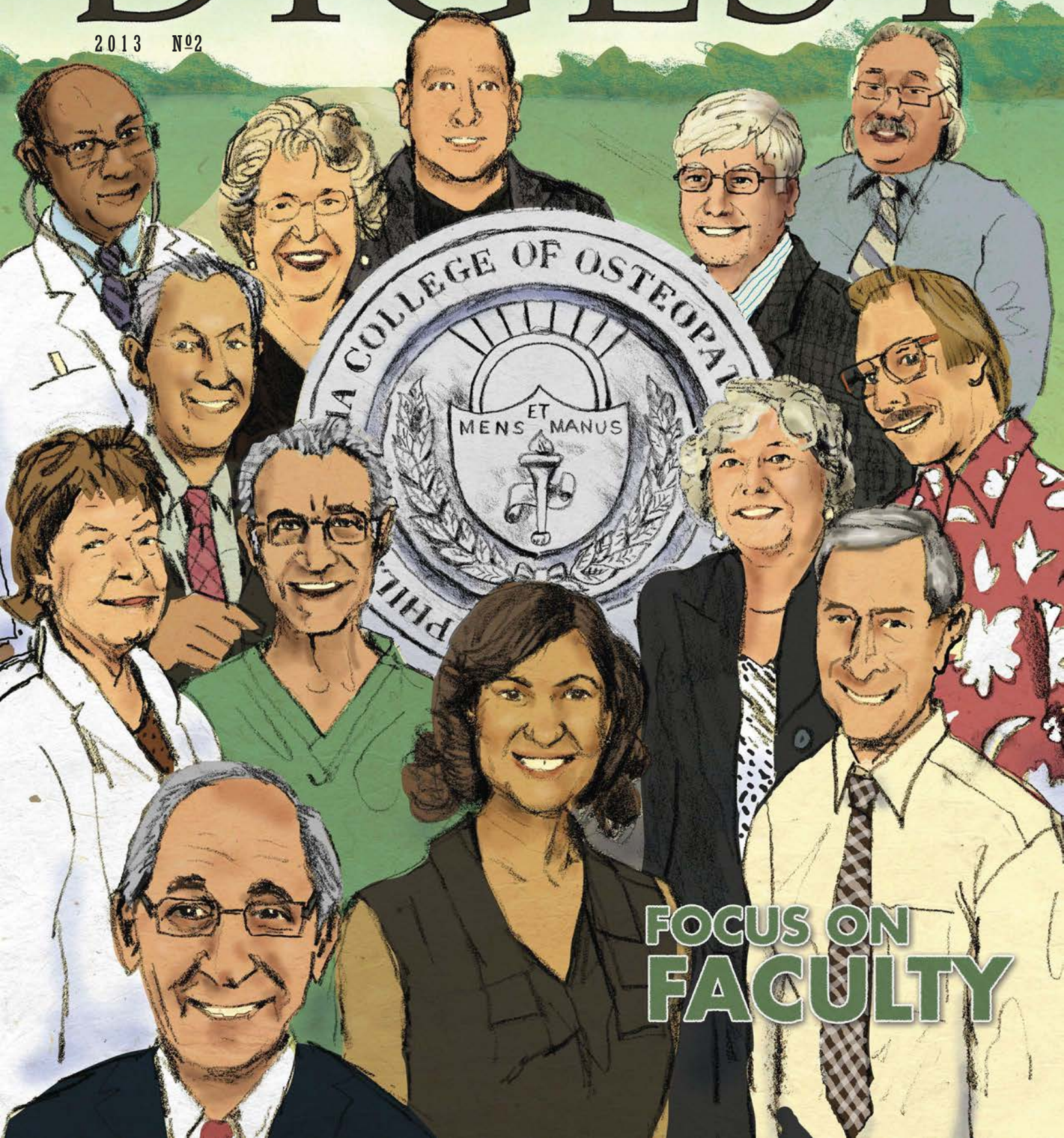
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, "Digest of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Summer 2013)" (2013).
Digest. Book 209.
<http://digitalcommons.pcom.edu/digest/209>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@PCOM. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digest by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@PCOM. For more information, please contact library@pcom.edu.

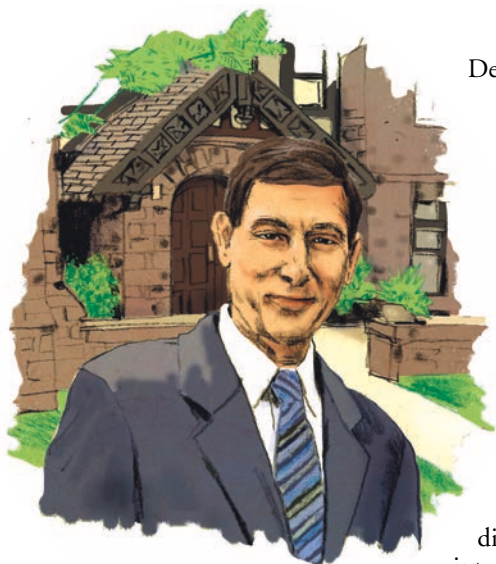
FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

DIGEST

2013 No2



FOCUS ON
FACULTY



Dear Alumni and Friends,

It is the key responsibility of faculty to advance knowledge through teaching, through research and through scholarship. The task may seem straightforward, but it is an enormous undertaking that requires steadfast commitment.

I am so proud of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and its history of brilliant teachers. All have made extraordinary contributions in the classroom and in their fields of expertise. They have achieved as well sustained levels of distinction and enjoy national and international recognition for their accomplishments.

Some of our faculty have served the College for more than 30 years (a few, more than 40 years); others are newer to our institution. Some provide vital links to the earliest days and departments at the College. Others have been instrumental in our more recent endeavors—for example, bringing our College to Georgia, shepherding our campus once established and overseeing its growth.

Many of our faculty spend countless hours in hospitals and clinics preventing, diagnosing, treating and curing disease, while role-modeling how to be compassionate and empathetic osteopathic physicians, healthcare practitioners and clinicians. They practice and teach the humility and humanity that makes for the best medicine.

Others contribute to the growth of science and research. They investigate so as to uncover the truth and to press forward discovery. They encounter and apply ever-changing and ever-more complex methods and capabilities found in modern technology while imparting the importance of creative and collaborative thinking.

Other faculty advocate for behavioral and mental health services, public health and preventive initiatives and educational benefits for those in need. They remind their students to never lose sight of the whole person.

Still other faculty contribute positively towards the functioning of organizations, communities, and private and public sectors. They communicate unique skills for working with diverse populations.

And so this special issue of *Digest Magazine* aims to recognize some of the faculty who have made and continue to make a difference in our institution. As noteworthy as they are, the professors featured only begin to suggest the range of expertise and achievements that characterize PCOM's educators as a whole. For each faculty member—past, present and future—stands as a testament to the Mission fulfillment of our beloved institution.

We celebrate and thank them all.

With warmest regards,

Matthew Schure, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

DIGEST

EDITOR

JENNIFER SCHAFER LEONE, MA

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

WENDY W. ROMANO

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

ABIGAIL HARMON

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

WENDY ALPINE
BONNIE BUXTON, PhD
WILLIAM A. DELB, JR., DO
JOSEPH A. DIETERLE, DO '70, FACOP, FAAP
JANICE FISHER
MADELINE LAW
ALEXANDER S. NICHOLAS, DO '75, FAAO
COLLEEN PELC
PAMELA RUOFF, MS
CAROL L. WEISL
NANCY WEST
DAVID MCKAY WILSON

PHOTOGRAPHERS

BRUCE FAIRFIELD
MELISSA KELLY
JENNIFER STALCUP

Contact Us

PHONE
215-871-6300
FAX
215-871-6307
E-MAIL
jenniferleo@pcom.edu
MAIL
4180 City Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19131-1695

pcom.edu

Digest, the magazine for alumni and friends of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Vol. 74, No. 2, USPS, 413-060), is published three times a year by the Offices of Marketing and Communications and Alumni Relations and Development. Periodical postage is paid at Upper Darby, PA, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

Digest
Alumni Relations and Development
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
4180 City Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19131-1695

Opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by the College or the editors.

CONTENTS



FEATURES

- 8 Back in the (Founders') Day: Faculty Pioneers, 1899 to World War I
- 10 Teach Me So I May Remember—Alumni: On Faculty Mentors and Awakeners
- 15 My Father's Precious Legacy: A Reflection On the Influence of Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO, Upon His Sons, His Family, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Osteopathic Profession
- 17 Love and Change: A Health Crisis Compels a Longtime Physician to Re-evaluate His Approach to Teaching and Practicing Preventative Patient Care
- 18 Philosophical Foundations—Faculty: In Their Own Words
- 20 From an Observer: My Initial Encounters with Clinical Medicine
- 22 A Team Approach: Three Clinical Psychology Faculty Keep On Track—On and Off the Track
- 23 Lucky Strike: Pharmacy Faculty, Staff and Students Find Lively Competition and Collegiality on the Lanes
- 24 Photo Collage: Fun Faculty Spaces

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Updates
- 7 Development News
- 25 Class Notes
- 37 My Turn Essay

ON THE COVER

Illustration by Daniel Baxter

"A Few Favorite Faculty" as nominated by College alumni . . . Pictured clockwise from the top: Cliff Akiyama, MA, MPH, department of bio-medical sciences; H. William Craver III, DO '87, FACOS, dean and chief academic officer, GA-PCOM; Brian M. Matayoshi, PhD, department of bio-medical sciences, GA-PCOM; and Lindon Young, PhD, department of bio-medical sciences; Rosemary Mennuti, EdD, NCSP, school psychology; Bill Clinton, MA, organizational development and leadership; Dawn Shell, PhD, department of bio-medical sciences; Saul Jeck, DO, obstetrics and gynecology; Charlotte Greene, PhD, department of bio-medical sciences; John Simelaro, DO '71, FCCP, FACOL, internal medicine; John Cavenagh, PhD, PA-C, physician assistant studies; Oliver Bullock, DO '78, community medicine; and Mary P. Owen, JD, PhD, department of bio-medical sciences, GA-PCOM.



Commencement, Georgia Campus – PCOM



Eighty-one doctoral degrees in osteopathic medicine, 37 master's degrees in biomedical sciences and six master's degrees in organizational development and leadership (ODL) were conferred on May 19 in the Grand Ballroom of the Gwinnett Center in Duluth. The Class of 2013 is the fifth graduating class of DOs, the sixth graduating class of biomedical sciences students and the first graduating class of ODL students.

Stephen Shannon, DO, MPH, president and chief executive officer, American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, delivered the commencement address.

DO Commencement, PCOM



Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine celebrated its 122nd DO Commencement on June 2 at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia. Two hundred and sixty-six doctoral degrees in osteopathic medicine were conferred. Five members of the graduating class earned a dual DO/MBA degree through an affiliation with St. Joseph's University, three completed a fellowship in osteopathic manipulative medicine at PCOM, one student received a DO/MPH degree in conjunction with Temple University and another student earned a clinical master of science degree from PCOM.

Norman E. Vinn, DO '77, president-elect of the American Osteopathic Association, delivered the commencement address. The College proudly bestowed the title of professor emeritus upon Joseph Dieterle, DO '70, FACOP, FAAP, during the ceremony.

Graduate Programs Commencement, PCOM



Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine marked its 14th Graduate Programs Commencement on July 26 at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia. There were 244 candidates for graduate degree programs in clinical psychology (doctor of psychology, 18 candidates); school psychology (doctor of psychology, 16 candidates; master of science, 29 candidates; educational specialist, 17 candidates); counseling and clinical health psychology (master of science, 30 candidates);

organizational development and leadership (master of science, 18 candidates); forensic medicine (master of science, 17 candidates); biomedical sciences (master of science, 44 candidates); and physician assistant studies (master of science, 55 candidates).

James F. Cawley, MPH, PA-C, professor, department of prevention and community health, and professor, physician assistant studies, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, George Washington University, delivered the commencement address.

The Legacy Continues



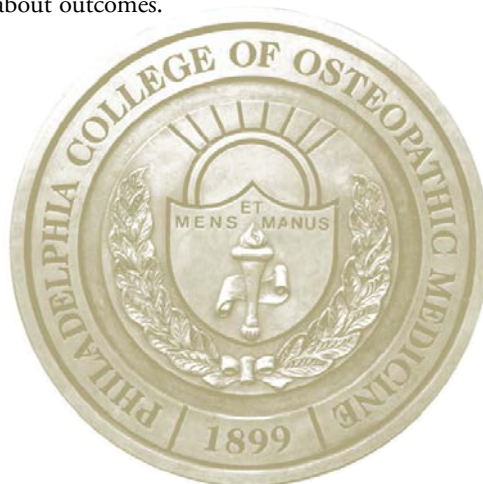
Three generations of the PCOM family: Jon R. Henwood, DO '91; Carol L. Henwood, DO '83; John Dahdah, DO '13; and William R. Henwood, DO '76.

PCOM has a proud history of graduating multiple generations of same-family physicians, including several families with six or more PCOM-trained doctors. Joining the tradition at this year's DO commencement was third-generation PCOM physician John Dahdah, DO '13, who says he has "been around medicine for as long as I can remember." Dr. Dahdah is the son of Carol L. Henwood, DO '83, the grandson of William R. Henwood, DO '76, and the nephew of Jon R. Henwood, DO '91, and Maria J. Henwood, DO '97.

Having witnessed his great-grandmother's dementia, Dr. Dahdah began his college career studying neuroscience, with the goal of providing hope to those suffering with Alzheimer's disease. It didn't take long for this "people person" to realize that the lab bench was not for him, and he chose medicine and the power of touch. "We are global brothers and sisters, and it's our responsibility to take care of one another," declares Dr. Dahdah. "Being a doctor is my contribution."

As Dr. Dahdah prepares for the long hours of residency, he will remind himself that "this is the dream job I've always wanted, but now it is not about me; it's about the patients. I know I will be tired and there will be good days and bad days, but if I can do something excellent on a bad day, imagine what I can do on a good day."

Dr. Dahdah will complete his residency in internal medicine at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville with the aspiration of working in critical care medicine. "I want to be a partner in health with my patients," he says, explaining his role. "The relationship between a doctor and his patient is dynamic. I want to give patients and their families a sense of realistic optimism and to ensure they're making their tough decisions based on realistic expectations about outcomes."



Never Too Young



Dr. Harding was hooded by H. William Craver, III, DO '87, dean and chief academic officer of the osteopathic program, GA-PCOM.

Serennah Harding, DO '13, graduated from GA-PCOM to become one of the youngest doctors in U.S. history. "Ever since I was 12, I wanted to be a doctor," says the 22-year-old graduate. "Watching how doctors interacted with my family after one of my brothers needed several major operations, I was inspired and wanted to be a part of that."

Dr. Harding was home schooled along with her nine siblings, and she entered college, as did five of her siblings, at the age of 12. She graduated from college at 17 and studied biomedical sciences for a year at GA-PCOM before entering the DO program.

Her age, she says, was never an issue. "I was in the same phase of life as some of my peers and in a different phase from others," she explains. "I found my niche among those who accepted me as a colleague and friend." Being home schooled helped Dr. Harding meet the challenges of college and medical school. "My parents encouraged self-learning and finding the resources we needed."

Dr. Harding received the Dean's Award, and as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, she is doing her residency at Walter Reed National Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

GA-PCOM Students Score Community Service Opportunity



Dr. Delp confers with GA-PCOM students (from left) Elvira Jasarevic (DO '16), Charles Hoggard (DO '16) and Barbara "Joy" Jones (DO '14) at the 360 Football Academy.

As high school students learned to block and tackle at the Atlanta 360 Football Academy on the campus of Oglethorpe University this summer, members of GA-PCOM's Family Medicine Club were on hand to administer first aid to students on the football field. Meanwhile, club advisor William Delp, DO, assistant professor, OMM, GA-PCOM, educated students and their parents in the classroom about concussions and heat exhaustion.

"The Family Medicine Club was honored to be there educating the students about health along with other companies that taught financial literacy and SAT/ACT prep," says Barbara "Joy" Jones (DO '14). "We also had the chance to work with the coaches, who were some of the best NFL players ever to play the game."

"It was a great experience for our students and a great opportunity to continue to introduce GA-PCOM to the community," says Dr. Delp, a former high school team physician and family physician who has treated his fair share of sports injuries throughout his career.

Annise Chung, DO '13

2013 Mason W. Pressly Memorial Medal Recipient, Georgia Campus – PCOM

When Annise Chung, DO '13, was an undergraduate student at Cornell University, she had never heard of osteopathic medicine. Then one day while perusing medical school brochures in the university's career center, she noticed several from osteopathic medical schools. She was immediately drawn to the osteopathic philosophy of healing the whole person and leveraging the body's own immune system.

A few years later, Dr. Chung decided to take a "leap of faith," and quit her job as a health policy analyst at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She applied only to GA-PCOM's DO program and quickly became a staunch advocate of osteopathic medicine.

As a student, she became involved in the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) because she felt so strongly about advocacy for the profession. "It was the only club I joined," says Dr. Chung. "Many pre-medical students and people out in the community don't know about osteopathic medicine, and they could really benefit from it. I wanted to spread the word."

While serving on SOMA's national board, Dr. Chung developed a way to get that message to more pre-medical students. She initiated the first national pre-SOMA "meet and greet" event,

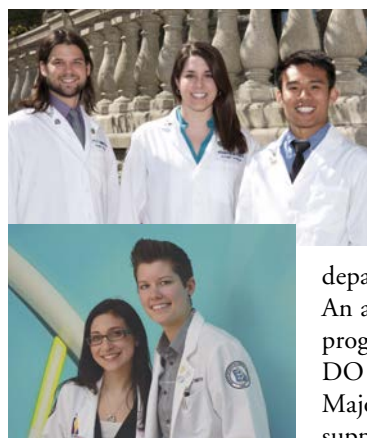
which was held at the 2012 SOMA convention in San Diego.

"We invited pre-health advisors and admissions officers from many colleges and universities," she reports. "We were very pleased with the outcome. Thirty pre-med students attended the event. In addition, a number of medical students from SOMA and the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents came, which gave the pre-med students great opportunities to ask questions and learn more about osteopathic medicine."

To raise awareness in the community, Dr. Chung revived GA-PCOM's 5K Run to benefit local charities, which had been on hiatus for a year.

"Every little effort will help us increase awareness of the benefits of osteopathic medicine," she says. "You don't have to be part of a big plan or program. Little things like sending a letter to your legislative representative or looking for recruitment opportunities in your community will help us get there."

Dr. Chung looks forward to a residency in internal medicine with great confidence in her profession.



Above: PCOM OMM fellows (from left): Kyle Hummerston (DO '16), Brianna McMahon (DO '16) and Daniel Nguyen (DO '16). Below: GA-PCOM fellows (from left): Hunter Wernick (DO '16) and Lauren Smith (DO '16).

OMM Fellows Named

Three Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and two Georgia Campus – PCOM third-year students have been accepted into the College's OMM fellowship program. As OMM fellows, they will attend the College for an additional 12 months, serving in the OMM department as both instructors and practitioners. An annual College provision sustains the fellowship program with assistance from the C. Paul Snyder, DO '10, and the Frieda O. Vickers, DO '39, and Major James G. Vickers endowment funds. Additional support comes from special gifts earmarked for OMM.

Sheila Aseto, DO '13, MS/ODL '11

2013 Simmy Ginsburg Humanitarian Award Recipient



Dr. Aseto with Dr. Apollon (left) and her daughter, Rebecca, representatives of the Ginsburg family.

When Sheila Aseto visited her extended family in Kenya at age 18, she discovered that some of her aunts, uncles and cousins had never seen a physician. The closest hospital was six hours away by car, and most people in Kenya don't drive. It was a defining moment in her life, galvanizing her resolve to become a physician and ultimately to build a hospital to help improve people's lives in this remote part of Kenya.

Compassion, love and service are the essence of Dr. Aseto. Her personal credo comes from the writings of Anne Frank: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

"I believe there is no greater way to improve the world than by caring, supporting and serving those around you, one person at a time," says Dr. Aseto, who is deeply influenced and inspired by her faith.

Among those she has helped with "a true servant's heart" are over 500 patients who walked miles for medical care at a clinic in Kenya where she served during

a medical mission trip. She also educated middle and high school students about sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS. "HIV is a huge problem in Kenya," Dr. Aseto notes. "My hope was to help the students in this small village make better decisions, which could, in turn, help to reduce the one-in-four rate of HIV infection."

She also improved the lives of many young children as a tutor and mentor in an underserved after-school program. She recalls one little boy who struggled mightily in math. "He really felt down on himself. I spent a lot of time with him every week. After two years, I could see an exponential improvement in his math skills and self-confidence, which was so rewarding. That experience solidified my decision to go into pediatric medicine," says Dr. Aseto, who has started her residency at Children's Hospital at Lehigh Valley Hospital.

Among many other volunteer activities, she served as global health chair of GA-PCOM's chapter of the American Medical Student Association, encouraging her fellow classmates to "think globally and look for opportunities to help people in a broader way." At the same time, she served as a mentor to fellow students, actively seeking out those who needed encouragement and help with their studies.

"Sheila is the embodiment of my mother's award," says psychologist Susan Apollon, daughter of Harry Ginsburg, DO '42, and his wife, Simmy, for whom the award is named. "She exudes deep compassion and an extraordinary love of humanity, and she has the ability to harness her wisdom and training in osteopathic medicine and organizational leadership to be of tremendous service in the lives of the people she touches both here and in Kenya."

The Science of Teaching



Dr. Appelt (right) especially enjoys teaching in the neuroanatomy lab.

Denah Appelt, PhD, professor, neuroscience, department of biomedical sciences, is this year's PCOM recipient of the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award, granted by the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation.

Dr. Appelt doesn't teach to win awards, she says. "That's not why I do what I do. We at PCOM want to produce good doctors. I owe it to society to do that—plus, you never know when you may run into one of our graduates in the ER."

Her teaching style is flexible, she explains. "I go into class with the points I need to make, but I 'read' the students and try to meet them where they are. There's always a way to make them 'get it.' My goal is to take them to the next level so they are prepared for the clinical aspects of neuroscience and neurology."

Experience Is the Best Teacher



Naba Rahman (PharmD '14) (left) shares a laugh with Kimura Leonard, financial aid director (right), at the GA-PCOM networking night.

Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine hosted its first networking night to introduce current students to recent alumni. “This informal gathering allows students to meet and interact with alumni and to discuss life after graduation,” explains Alisa Toney, alumni relations and development officer. “The added bonus is that members of the administration are present to answer questions.”

Johnny DiBlasi, DO '13, was in a unique position—not quite a graduate, not yet an alumnus—at the April 26 event held at Dave & Buster's, Sugarloaf Mills. “I enjoyed speaking with residents to hear their perspectives; it's helpful to anticipate the unknown. As an alumnus, I look forward to coming back to GA-PCOM and to having the opportunity to be a mentor. I would like to share information with students that I wish I had had.”

“We plan to make this meet and greet an annual event,” says Ms. Toney. “Experience is the best teacher, and our alumni are the best messengers.”

Partnership Expands Healthcare Options in Sullivan County



The telemedicine cart will allow Drs. Gelb (left) and Wood to consult with specialists regardless of location.

healthcare advances that will be housed in PCOM's Sullivan County Medical Center.

A \$100,000 grant established a dental clinic at the Center that opened its doors in the fall of 2011. “We are filling a huge void in the area,” explains Dan White, the clinic's dental hygienist. “There is only one other dentist in the area.” The clinic is open five days a week and sees nearly 500 patients a year.

Newer on the scene is a telemedicine cart and digital X-ray equipment. “Ginormous” is how Ernest Gelb, DO '78, co-medical director of the Sullivan County Medical Center and assistant professor, family medicine, describes the impact this equipment will have on the Center's ability to provide services. “The new x-ray equipment will allow us to do instantly what used to take a week,” he explains. Not only can the digital images be viewed instantly, they can be shared electronically to be read by physicians throughout the world at any hour of the day or night.

The telemedicine cart will enable the Center to provide specialty care electronically. “It's the wave of the future for remote parts of the country,” says Dr. Gelb. Through an affiliation with a healthcare system, patients can come to the Center and interact in real time with dermatologists, psychologists, rheumatologists and other specialists.

The funds are also being used to provide advanced training to area emergency medical technicians at both Sullivan County Medical Center and at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville. PCOM students doing clerkships in the area are encouraged to participate.

Darla Bortz, Sullivan County commissioner and PCOM trustee, notes that this partnership is a model for rural healthcare delivery. “If we collaborate, there's a lot we can accomplish. The community helped us assess our needs, Geisinger provided their fundraising expertise, and PCOM provides the physicians and students.”

“The medical technological advances will be a tremendous benefit to this community,” notes David Wood, DO '96, co-medical director of the Sullivan County Medical Center and assistant professor, family medicine, “and they will also provide educational benefits to our students. Our goal is to continue to move forward with developing quality care initiatives that serve this county and educate our students.”

“Never underestimate the power of a few committed people to change the world.” These well-known words by anthropologist Margret Mead were brought to life in Sullivan County, Pennsylvania, when residents concerned about access to medical care in this geographically remote community formed the nonprofit Sullivan County Action, Inc. Partnering with the Geisinger Health System Foundation, they raised over \$2 million for

Building for the Future, Impacting Lives

Every gift made to Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine reflects a story and a personal reason for giving. For some, it is a chance to give back and help the next generation of students. For others, it is a source of pride as their gift keeps their College at the forefront of educational training. The benefits of your support to PCOM never end, as the power of education to impact lives never ceases.

A new fiscal year began at PCOM on July 1, 2013. Initiatives for support this fiscal year include:

- The Fund for PCOM: unrestricted funding allocated to the most urgent needs.
- The PCOM Living-Learning Center in Sewickley: reflecting PCOM's commitment to clinical education in Western Pennsylvania.
- Clinical Learning and Assessment Centers: providing innovative and valuable simulation teaching tools on both campuses.
- Scholarship Aid: providing needed assistance to deserving students.
- PCOM Healthcare Centers: offering medical care to the underserved while giving first-rate clinical experiences to students.
- Planned Giving: estate planning for the benefit of donors and future generations of PCOM students.

Planned Giving . . . A Win-Win

Planned giving or charitable gift planning refers to the process whereby a donor gives an asset to a nonprofit organization using methods that financially benefit the donor, his or her heirs and the organization. Such giving techniques are called "planned gifts," because with thoughtful planning, a donor creates a win-win solution for himself/herself and for Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Did you know there are several creative ways to support PCOM with wills and trusts, appreciated securities, charitable gift annuities and life insurance policies?

Important note: The IRA Charitable Rollover was extended through December 31, 2013, as a provision of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. The IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70½ and older to make direct transfers totaling up to \$100,000 per year to 501(c)(3) organizations, without having to count the transfers as income for federal income tax purposes.



Harry J. Morris, DO '78, MPH, professor and chair, family medicine, has named PCOM as a beneficiary of his life insurance policy.

Designating PCOM as a Beneficiary

If you have already included the College in your estate plans, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations and Development so you can be included in the Andrew Taylor Still Legacy Society, properly thanked and assured that your gift is directed according to your preference.

PHILADELPHIA CAMPUS

Pamela Ruoff, interim
chief advancement officer
pamr@pcom.edu

Scott Righter,
special gifts officer
scottr@pcom.edu

Stephanie Cohen,
annual giving officer
stephaniecoh@pcom.edu

215-871-6120 or 800-739-3939

GEORGIA CAMPUS

Alisa Toney, alumni relations and development officer
alisato@pcom.edu or 678-225-7506

Gifts from the Class of 2013



Dr. Dahdah



Dr. Harding

The generosity of donors helps the College to sustain its mission and create an environment of educational excellence. This year the Class of 2013 joined those efforts with gifts to The Fund for PCOM.

Led by Class Chair Serennah Harding, DO '13, the Class of 2013 at Georgia Campus – PCOM contributed gifts in memory of John Pifer, DO, adjunct faculty, primary care skills, GA-PCOM. One of the student donors, Jacqui O'Kane, DO '13, explains, "I gave back to GA-PCOM through the Class of 2013 gift because Dr. Pifer was a wonderful physician and mentor, and I wanted to honor his memory."

The Philadelphia Campus chose to sponsor a gazebo to be used as an outdoor study space. Class Chair John Dahdah, DO '13, says, "As a third-generation PCOM alumnus, I appreciate the opportunity PCOM provided me to achieve the dream of serving my global family with my heart, my hands and my skills as an osteopathic physician. I choose to support PCOM (both creatively and financially) in an attempt to repay the College—in a small way—to ensure that the next generation of bright minds interested in osteopathic medicine will find the resources they need to transform dreams into realities."



BACK IN THE (FOUNDERS') DAY: Faculty Pioneers, 1899 to World War I

by Janice Fisher

The electrocardiograph did not exist, nor did the word “hormone.” *Bacillus pertussis*, the bacterium that causes whooping cough, had not yet been identified; Alois Alzheimer had yet to describe the disease that now bears his name.

But although much of “modern” medicine would not blossom until the twentieth century, in 1899 one thing was exactly the same as it is today: Philadelphia was a mecca for medical education. At least a dozen medical schools and hospitals were on the scene when 40-year-old Mason Wiley Pressly audaciously opened the Philadelphia College of Infirmary and Osteopathy (PCIO) in two rooms of an office building at 21 S. 12th Street. The nation’s 12th osteopathic college, and only the second (after Boston) on the East Coast, it was officially incorporated on January 12, 1899.

THE FIRST DAYS

Initially, the medical establishment was far from welcoming, just as Dr. Pressly—depicted in a 1904 osteopathic publication as “a perfect dynamo of thought and energy for our science and profession”—had anticipated. But the newcomer made inroads by, among other things, wooing the press, both through his ringing rhetoric (he was a preacher and esteemed orator) and the successful treatment of ailing newspaper editors. In the College’s first term, seven students enrolled (two had first been patients in Dr. Pressly’s clinical practice; a few others were intrigued MDs). Two of the seven would graduate, including a woman, Gene G. Banker, who practiced in Philadelphia for 60 years.

Dr. Pressly, a disciple of Andrew Taylor Still, initially taught all the courses himself. In May 1899 he was joined by 32-year-old Oscar John Snyder, newly graduated from the Northern Institute of Osteopathy in Minneapolis, where he and Dr. Pressly had met and had planned the Philadelphia endeavor. Dr. Snyder assumed PCIO’s presidency; Dr. Pressly was secretary-treasurer and *de facto* dean.

By January 1900 PCIO had six more faculty members:

- William M. Keene, MD, DO, instructed in diagnosis, pathology and surgery. As did many early PCIO faculty, he began teaching at the school while a student there, and he was one of its first two graduates. He would become the first elected president of the Alumni Association.
- Phoebe T. Williamson, MD, was the school’s first female instructor, lecturing on gynecology and obstetrics.
- S. Preston Carver, MD, a graduate of Albany Medical College, taught anatomy.

- H. H. Walpole, MD, DO, lectured on osteopathic practice. Like Dr. Pressly and Dr. Snyder, he had been a student at the Northern Institute of Osteopathy.
- Daniel B. Macaulay, DO, taught demonstrative osteopathy and clinics. He would become the first president of the American Osteopathic Association.
- Charles W. McCurdy, PhD, ScD, DO, taught chemistry while also studying at PCIO. He went on to teach for 50 years and was also the school’s second dean (1903–1908).

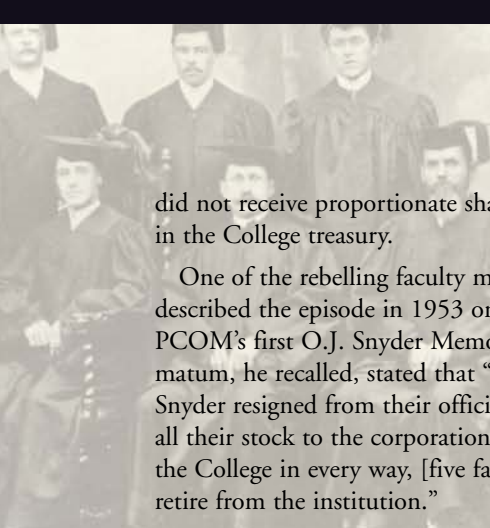
Other early faculty from the ranks of PCIO’s alumni included James E. Burt, MD, DO ’02, who remained at the College to teach diagnosis and dissection and became PCIO’s first dean in 1903. Edward H. Fritzsche, DO ’08, taught physiological chemistry for more than 20 years and was a leading OMM practitioner.

The American School of Osteopathy in Kirksville, the nation’s first osteopathic school, also provided key PCIO faculty:

- J. Ivan Dufur, DO, chaired the Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, hosted a long-running annual “Dufur Day” student/faculty picnic, and established one of the area’s most respected hospitals for mental patients.
- Charles J. Muttart, DO, was chairman of PCIO’s Department of Gastroenterology and professor of osteopathic diagnosis. He became PCIO’s third dean (1908–1911).
- David S. B. Pennock, DO, MD, joined PCIO in 1901 and became its “father of surgery,” heading the department he founded until his retirement in 1947. His MD, earned at Hahnemann Medical College while he was teaching at PCIO, was critical to the fledgling surgery department, since DOs could not then perform surgery or purchase narcotics, anesthetics or barbiturates. Dr. Pennock and other faculty also incorporated the Harvey School of Anatomy in 1910, which (unlike an osteopathic institution) could obtain cadavers for dissection.

DAYS OF REBELLION

Faculty compensation at the outset was not cash, but rather non-dividend-paying company stock: one share for every 33 hours of instruction. Many allopathic medical schools were similarly organized. But by 1904, a 16-member faculty (there were 25 students) threatened to resign if it



did not receive proportionate shares of the nearly \$3,000 in the College treasury.

One of the rebelling faculty members, Dr. Pennock, described the episode in 1953 on the occasion of receiving PCOM's first O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal. A faculty ultimatum, he recalled, stated that "unless Drs. Pressly and Snyder resigned from their official positions, turned over all their stock to the corporation and entirely retired from the College in every way, [five faculty members] would retire from the institution."

The faculty prevailed, and Dr. Pressly left PCIO and Philadelphia. "Dr. Snyder," said Dr. Pennock, "continued to work for the benefit of the College and the profession, and no one ever heard him say one word against either the College or the men who forced his resignation, thereby showing a strength of character that few of us possess."

DAYS OF STANDARD-SETTING

The efforts of Dr. Snyder and others to legalize osteopathy were galvanized by legislative assaults on osteopathic practice throughout the country. Osteopathy was finally legalized in Pennsylvania in 1909. In 1910, partly in response to Arthur Flexner's critical report on the state of medical education in general and osteopathic education in particular, PCIO became the first osteopathic school to offer a four-year curriculum.

Arthur M. Flack, DO '06, dean from 1911 to 1924, spearheaded the enlarged curriculum. He also oversaw PCIO's transition from the last in a series of rented facilities to its status as property owner, first in 1916 at 19th and Spring Garden Streets (including a hospital, which replaced an overwhelmed Philadelphia Osteopathic Dispensary) and then in 1929—almost simultaneous with the stock market crash—at 48th and Spruce Streets.

The expanded curriculum was bolstered by the establishment of new academic departments and new faculty interests:

- At 832 Pine Street, which PCIO occupied from 1912 to 1918, Ira W. Drew, DO '11, organized a Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Drew had come to PCIO as a curious journalist from Vermont and stayed to matriculate and then teach. He gained a wife as well as a new career, marrying Margaret Spencer, DO '11; they practiced together until her death.
- Frederick A. Beale, DO '09, became a team physician for PCIO's various athletic teams and later for the Frankford Yellowjackets, forerunner of the Philadelphia Eagles football team. Charles J. Van Ronk, DO '12, became a leading sports physician for local and national baseball stars and boxers.
- C. Paul Snyder, DO '10, was a long-time member of the faculty and the board of directors that governed the merged corporation, formed in 1916, of PCIO and the




Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia. Today's PCOM Undergraduate OMM Fellowship bears his name.

- C.D.B. Balbirnie, DO '11, a Scottish-born, English-educated former pharmacist who had owned four drug-stores and served on Philadelphia's City Council, became professor of clinical osteopathy and comparative therapeutics.
- Edward G. Drew, DO '11 (Dr. Ira Drew's brother), taught histology as well as obstetrics and orificial surgery, and later gynecology. Dr. Drew maintained "that art provides the best outlet from the tension of surgery and makes a surgeon more fit for his work. . . . My work in the studio has definitely given me steadier nerves for operating."

THE DAYS BEFORE THE WAR

PCIO moved to Spring Garden Street shortly before World War I. The ranks of the faculty were thinned, even though DOs could not serve as commissioned physicians. Meta L. Christy, DO '21, PCIO's first African American graduate, was a notable wartime matriculant.

H. Walter Evans, DO '17, for whom today's Evans Hall is named, taught obstetrics and bacteriology. He later organized and chaired the Department of Preventive Medicine and served the Alumni Association for many years. Perhaps most notably, he also guided the College's progress from the 48th and Spruce Streets campus to City Avenue in the 1970s. He exemplifies the pioneer whose influence transcends an era.



For more about the early—and later—history of PCOM, see these sources (all available online), from which most of the information in this article is taken:

M. H. F. Friedman, "History of Physiology at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine." *Physiologist* 1986 Oct; 29(5 Suppl): 35–45. Available at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/3534909

Carol Benenson Perloff, "To Secure Merit: A Century of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine 1899–1999" (1999). *History*. Book 1. <http://digitalcommons.pcom.edu/history/1>

Cy Peterman, "The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary History of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine: A Condensed Record of the Courage, Convictions, and the Transcending Determination of the Early Osteopathic Pioneers, and Those Who Have Since Carried on Their Concept of Better Healing and Health Care" (1974). *History*. Book 2. <http://digitalcommons.pcom.edu/history/2>

Teach Me So I May Remember

ALUMNI: ON FACULTY MENTORS AND AWAKENERS

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty enlighten, challenge and inspire. They advance the science and practice of medical, health and behavioral disciplines; think and teach critically and creatively; and work collaboratively with others—and in service to others. In doing so, they influence personal and professional journeys of their students in profound ways. In the vignettes that follow, PCOM alumni celebrate some of the faculty who made a difference in their lives.

edited by Jennifer Schaffer Leone

Albert F. D'Alonzo, DO '56, Cardiology, and Henry A. D'Alonzo, DO '51, Surgery



It was May 1986. I had just taken the national boards, and had begun my journey into clinical medicine. In the rear of an elevator, I overheard the D'Alonzo brothers, Albert and Henry, during a heated discussion about the fact that the average OMS III did not read enough, and couldn't answer the simplest of questions. Dr. D'Alonzo, the surgeon, bet Dr. D'Alonzo, the

internist, that the first student who they could find would not know the definition of Mondor's syndrome.

I hunkered down low in the elevator, and prayed that both would get off before I was seen. My good fortune led me to a back staircase within the Hospital of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the medical library within Evans Hall.

A short time later, after nephrology fellow Teddy Bernardini [Theodora K. Bernardini, DO '80] quizzed me about non-anion gap metabolic acidosis, the D'Alonzo brothers arrived on the scene. The definition of Mondor's syndrome was posed to me as the surgeon pulled out his wallet and paid the internist.

It was not about the money. Drs. D'Alonzo cared about our education. From that day forward, I carried a small pad in

my pocket; its purpose was to write down things I didn't know but needed to learn.

—Randy Litman, DO '88

Associate Dean for Clinical Sciences and Professor of Osteopathic Principles & Practices, Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine, Pikeville, Kentucky

James O. Brown, PhD, Anatomy



It was my first year of medical school and my first day of anatomy lab at 48th Street: an activity filled with anticipation, unusual smells, fearful sights and clean white coats.

I can recall the moment Dr. Brown entered the lab—a gentle, genteel, white-haired man. He called us together into a tight group around the cold lockers where the cadavers were hiding. He slid one out, and took it to a band saw. He then proceeded to make both a sagittal and coronal cut of the cadaver with the band saw. Two of my lab mates fell to the floor.

For the remainder of our first year in that lab, Dr. Brown instructed us, guided us, tested us and reassured us that we would make it to the next level. Much to my amazement he was correct, and we did just that.

Dr. Brown remains a giant in my memory as I think back to my early years at PCOM. I continue to smile—and to learn.

—Ernest R. Gelb, DO '78

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, PCOM Sullivan County Medical Center, Laporte, Pennsylvania

Angus Gordon Cathie, DO, Anatomy



Dr. Cathie was an uncommon physician. He co-authored an anatomy book that was the pinnacle of anatomy knowledge before *Gray's Anatomy* was published. He possessed, at least in my mind, the highest

level of anatomy knowledge that existed. His gruff voice could capture his audience, and many students almost feared him. But his most awesome ability was to lecture and simultaneously draw and color (with a single hand) an anatomical illustration. Even thinking about it now leaves me dumbfounded; we were all amazed and impressed.

I feel I cannot do Dr. Cathie justice in my meager attempt to describe him. But I do know that he was undoubtedly a great influence and a masterful intellectual.

—Robert D. Hayes, DO '63

Retired trauma surgeon, Lee County, Virginia

William H. Dickerson, DO '54, Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease



Beyond a doubt, the most influential faculty member at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine for me was Dr. Dickerson. Dr. Dickerson was my mentor—as a student, intern and

internal medicine resident.

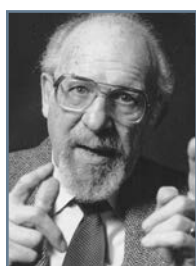
He taught academics, diagnostics, physical diagnosis, professional ethics and the osteopathic holistic approach. He

made sure that his residents were good internists first and foremost, before some of us drifted into subspecialties. I was always amazed by his knowledge of cardiology; he played a major role in my decision to enter the subspecialty, and he encouraged me into and during my cardiology fellowship.

Throughout his career, Dr. Dickerson supported the osteopathic philosophy and led the professional certification process for the American College of Osteopathic Internists.

—Robert H. Biggs, DO '76
*Founder, Lehigh Valley Cardiology Associates,
 Bethlehem, Pennsylvania*

Emanuel Fliegelman, DO '42, Obstetrics and Gynecology



I was seeing a GYN patient when I smiled widely and had to stifle my erupting laughter as I realized I was using Manny's exact phraseology and gestures. I explained to the patient my

realization and its significance.

I had the privilege as both a student and an OB/GYN resident to know and learn from Dr. Fliegelman, whom everyone, even patients, knew simply as Manny. Manny was more than an OB/GYN. He was a medical educator who was decades ahead of his contemporaries. Manny instituted one of the first courses in Philadelphia in human sexuality for first-year medical students. Class attendance was not an issue; it was standing-room only. He was invited to speak at other medical schools in Philadelphia on topics such as "Sex After Fifty Is Nifty."

Manny employed Doris, one of the first gynecologic teaching associates in Philadelphia, so students could learn to perform a pelvic exam with competency and comfort. Doris still is providing immediate uncensored feedback today to the next generation of osteopathic physicians.

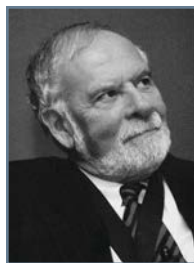
With his theatrical presence and voice, Manny would welcome students at matriculation with his favorite quote from Norman Cousins. Manny was passionate about humanism in medicine at a time when it was a foreign and novel concept.

Dr. Fliegelman is honored every year in the second-year curriculum with a three-hour lecture that bears his name, which I introduce by telling the class that Manny is the reason why I am an

OB/GYN and back at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

—Joseph M. Kaczmarczyk, DO '82, MPH,
*Assistant Dean of Clinical Education and
 Professor and Vice Chair, Obstetrics/Gynecology,
 Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine*

Robert Fogel, DO, Pathology and Microbiology



Dr. Fogel's style of teaching—in the method of Socrates—transported me beyond the state of memorization to bringing together anatomy, biochemistry and physiology in a thought-provoking way.

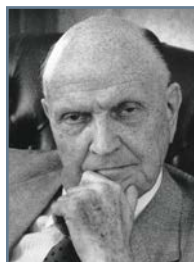
His class was a "must attend" and a "must be prepared." His enthusiasm, depth of knowledge and charisma make him most memorable among a talented and dedicated faculty.

As an internist, I continue to rely on the fundamentals of pathology to explain the pathophysiology of disease states to patients.

While I'm grateful to all of the faculty at PCOM who dedicate themselves to teaching clinicians, Dr. Fogel taught many of us to "think" medicine.

—Nancy Andreano, DO '96
*Chief Executive Officer, Hospital Physicians Inc.,
 Columbus, Ohio*

George H. Guest, DO '36, Neurology and Psychiatry



Dr. Guest was like a grandfather. He never got excited and always talked about cigars or sailing. He explained mental illness in the context of the here and now.

One day on rounds, he explained that certain behaviors would not be considered unusual in another time and place, helping us to understand that behavior alone, without the context of where, when and how, was not diagnostic. He provided a unique historical perspective on mental illness, as his practice spanned many decades in psychiatry as well as neurology. Dr. Guest taught not just the science, but also the art of medicine.

—Ronald Paolini, DO '85
*Psychiatrist, Neuroscience
 Rehabilitation Center,
 Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical
 Center, Fort Gordon, Georgia*

Robert H. Jama, DO '69, Surgery



A surgical residency, without question, is a test of endurance. It was the most challenging and exciting time I have ever known, and provided me with a lifetime of memories.

As I reflect today on the thousands of procedures, the trainers who helped me achieve my goals and the patients and their families, one rather obscure and seemingly routine event clearly stands out.

It was 2:00 a.m. on a Thursday morning, three weeks into my surgical residency, when a patient in the shock and trauma unit began having a serious problem. He needed a bedside procedure and he needed it immediately. I had done the procedure before but never alone. My attending and trainer was Dr. Jama, a fantastic educator and surgeon. I had to call him and let him know the situation,

Fogelisms from the DO Classes of 2008 and 2009

from Will Greenhut, DO '08

"Elizabeth [+ Levine Sign], this is the big one!"

"Yes, the gentleman in the green hat, loud please."

"Name the 11 signs of SLE."

"You gotta know this guys!"

"There are no absolute rules, ma'am, not in anything."

"This is not about passing a test!"

"Hodgkin's is easy, non Hodgkin's is the son of a b!#\$h."

"This is called stunning of the heart; you know, like I stun somebody up side the head with a 2 x 4 plank of wood . . . stunning. Anybody confused?"

"As a matter of fact, I have a friend; it's funny that someone as obnoxious as me has so many friends."

"This humble country doctor disagrees."

"This is not the War of 1812. This is your life's work!"

"Can someone bring down those slides?"

"I'm sorry. The devil made me do it."

and despite my almost paralyzing fear, I wanted to sound confident and prepared. Dr. Jama listened to my story and simply said, "Go ahead."

Trying to exude confidence in front of the nursing staff, I carefully prepared my equipment and draped the patient. As I reached for the first instrument I backed up slightly and stepped on someone's toes. It was Dr. Jama. How he got there so fast I will never know, but I was never so happy to see anyone. He acted as if he was just passing through, and never gave the impression that he was checking on me, but I knew.

That evening, I played a small role in a patient's care and I gained a little more surgical experience. But I also came to realize how difficult it is to be a surgical trainer and how important an asset Dr. Jama was to PCOM Surgery.

—Arthur Sesso, DO '81
Chairman, Professor, General Surgery
Residency Program Director and
General Surgery Clerkship Program Director,
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Kimberly D. Kaiser, DO, Physician Assistant Studies



Dr. Kaiser taught several classes in the PA program and, in particular, oversaw the Evidence-based Medicine course and graduate studies projects, which included writing a meta-analysis on an original topic. It was through these courses that I found my love for research, and eventually got a job doing just that.

Dr. Kaiser did not want us to merely learn what research and evidence-based medicine were; she wanted us to know how to use them. She was even-tempered if I was completely wrong and missed the point completely. Additionally, her door was always open for help. When a group of us got together to study for our oral board exams, she was more than willing to help us study as a group and individually. This showed me how dedicated she was to the PA program.

—Angela Kapalko, MS/PA-C '07, MHS
Physician Assistant, Jonathan Lax Treatment
Center and Research Coordinator,
Philadelphia FIGHT, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nancy Aronson, PhD, Organizational Leadership and Development



Dr. Aronson exemplified what it means to be a great teacher: experienced, knowledgeable, enthusiastic, energetic, and able to impart the joy of learning, even about topics that might not appear of great interest initially.

My ODL class was extremely diverse. Students ranged in age from 21 to 74; some worked in industries with over 30,000 employees and others for family-owned shops; and they had been educated all over the country. Dr. Aronson was able to engage all of us in the learning process because she understood the variety of students and valued and incorporated the input of each individual.

Her classes were totally interactive. In the classroom, we moved about—from one group to another or performing actions required to demonstrate a point. During one course, Developing Systems Literacy, we were asked at the start of a class to remove our shoes and to put them in a pile next to the wall, where they remained until the class was over. Through the activity, lessons about how people act within a societal system were learned.

Dr. Aronson's classes were all about discovery. Great wisdom was not dictated, but avenues of thinking differently about some of life's problems were opened up to the class members.

—Lorry Lutter, MS/ODL '05
Retired from AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals,
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

Bruce Kornberg, DO '78, Internal Medicine and Cardiology



Dr. Kornberg made it clear that he was deeply interested in seeing that I learned medicine—that we all learned effective medicine, and moreover, compassionate patient care.

During my third-year cardiology rotation we started at 5:30 a.m.—to be ready for rounds at 7:00 a.m. sharp. Under Dr. Kornberg, all patients had to be seen and notes written in advance of rounds. We did history and physical examinations on anyone admit-

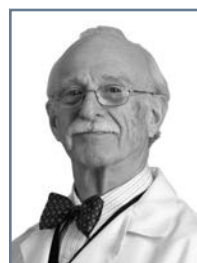
ted within 24 hours. After our shifts, we went home and read.

I recall vividly one day when we were at the bedside of a patient with diabetes, renal failure and hypertension. Dr. Kornberg asked me what drug should be administered. I knew the answer was captopril, the first drug among a class of ACE inhibitors. But my tongue was stuck to the roof of my mouth; I lost confidence and failed to state my choice. Dr. Kornberg looked disappointed, but I doubt he was as disappointed as I. For I greatly valued Dr. Kornberg's mentorship, and benefitted considerably from the kind of mutual learning and development he encouraged.

Even after graduation, I continued to turn to Dr. Kornberg for guidance. I remember contacting him one night while I was on call as a resident; I had a tough case and wanted to confirm my treatment course was the best one for my patient. He willingly took my anxious call at 3:00 a.m.—still teaching me about medicine and about myself. I was indebted to Dr. Kornberg then, and I remain so now.

—Sarah Towne, DO '92
Chief Medical Officer, New Hanover Community
Health Center, Wilmington, North Carolina

Burton Mark, DO, Psychiatry



When I first arrived on campus, I often saw the happy gray-haired man—with a bow tie. His words were always spoken in soft, calm tones; it was obvious that he was a shrink.

His class lectures were packed with students—flocking to hear practical knowledge, not just lessons taught by rote. He'd note tips like "a well-placed cuss word in therapy with an adolescent can disarm him and help to open up the dialog." His teaching was an interspersing of vital information with the shocking reality of mental illness. In a time when PowerPoint after PowerPoint was the norm for lecture, he showed movie clips, sometimes racy, to maintain focus and solidify the topic.

On rotations, he taught the importance of sleep in human functioning; it is still the number one lesson I teach new fellows. And in his consultation with the general hospital staff, you saw a truly respected physician and mentor, cheerful to all, whose opinions mattered to the

medical providers. Yet he simultaneously maintained impeccable boundaries learned in years of psychotherapy training.

But one of the most important lessons I learned was not realized until many years after I left PCOM: a love of teaching and caring for those entering the medical profession and, especially, psychiatry. While Dr. Mark loves psychiatry—the good, the bad and the ugly—he also loves teaching it. He loves sharing his knowledge base with others.

I pause to think of Dr. Mark each time I am presenting in front of medical students, residents and fellows; I wish to be half as funny and effective as he.

—Kathleen A. Koth, DO '05
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, and Division of Child and Adolescent Program Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship, Medical College of Wisconsin and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Robert Meals, DO '56, Radiology



The first week would start quietly. By the second week, the energy level would pick up. Third and fourth weeks would reach maximum insanity—singing, guitar and drum playing, and all-out “romper room” antics. This commotion was designed and led by the wizard of radiology teaching, Dr. Meals.

For those of us who experienced his didactic clerkship in radiology, the experience will always be imprinted in our minds. For some, the course was equivalent to “medical educational hazing” (yet done in the most supportive of manners and imbued with fun). When your photo would appear on a screen (in front of your fellow classmates), “OK, Doctor, now what do you see on this film?” would surely follow. Should you not have the foggiest notion of the image on the film, you would be mandated to sing a song into a microphone for all to hear.

Dr. Meals' genius—in addition to his superior grasp of radiology—was the recognition that only when students let down their inhibitions and delight in the task at hand could real learning occur.

And fun we had. The more Dr. Meals' puppets talked to us, the better the films and images came to life and the better we became at interpreting them. Besides, in the end, who really cared about making a mistake in front of a puppet? It was bet-

ter than making a mistake about a patient. Why not take a chance by reaching for an answer?

—Kenneth J. Veit, DO '76, MBA
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost and Dean, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Mark Miller, PhD, Anatomy



September 11, 2001, was a day that will forever be burned into the hearts and minds of all Americans. The DO Class of 2005 were in the middle of our initial anatomy exam when the first plane hit the World Trade Center. I had just completed the written part of the exam and was entering the campus courtyard feeling dejected about the difficulty of the exam and concerned about the ensuing practical portion. A Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine security officer greeted student arrivals and reported the news. As I took the practical portion of the exam later that day in the anatomy suite on the top level of Evans Hall, I remember peering out the windows at the skyscrapers of downtown Philadelphia and scanning for airplanes.

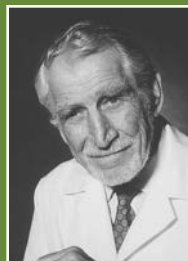
It wasn't until a day or two later, when I was back in the anatomy suite among all the cadavers, that the enormity of September 11 hit me, and I broke down and cried in class. Dr. Miller took me into the hallway so I could calm down. He, too, was deeply affected by the tragedy. The next day, he started a “Boot Campaign,” bringing a fireman's boot into the anatomy suite and asking the class to make donations for the first responders working tirelessly at Ground Zero. He said he would match—out of his own pocket—whatever the entire class could collectively donate as a whole. I will never forget Dr. Miller or his generosity during that period.

Dr. Miller always had an enormous grin that was contagious to others, even when he was mad at you for resecting the recurrent laryngeal nerve during dissection. He made anatomy fun, and his passion about it made you care about it too.

His premature passing in 2008 was enormously sad for the PCOM community.

—Amanda Wehler, DO '05
Transfusion Medicine Director, Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, Pennsylvania

David Heilig, DO '44, MSc, FAAO, Osteopathic Principles and Practice



from Dr. Heilig's welcome address to the first year class, August 1980

“What is osteopathy to me? It is the most exciting thing in my life—well—

one of the most exciting things. Osteopathic medicine is the most exciting art and science because of its basic philosophy, and the way that philosophy keeps pace with all the material of practical science.

Otterbein Dressler, pathologist and former dean here, used to highlight the fact that the ‘intrinsic healing power of the body’ was reiterated by Still years before Metchnikoff discovered phagocytosis and before Ehrlich's elaboration of the side chain theory—and we can add—before the development of autoimmune concepts and a century before the discoveries of enkephalin, endorphins, and before interferon was discovered by *Time Magazine*.

A hundred years before him, Henle (whose name still identifies the tubular loops in the kidney) wrote: ‘The day of the last hypothesis, is the day of the last observation.’

You are being asked to share and develop a rich inheritance.

I ask you to approach each new fact, each new formula, each new description—not as something isolated, to be memorized—but as part of an expanding understanding stimulated by imagination and idealism and tempered with humanity and humility.

‘The study of man is man,’ Hippocrates said. ‘Where there is love of man there is also love of the art.’

You are not here to prepare for a luxury cruise. Neither are you preparing for a routine run on a mail boat. You are preparing if necessary for a moon launch or perhaps to challenge Darth Vader in some distant galaxy.

You are special. And you must accept now that you are special and will always be special with all the worries and woes and all the rewards of special people.”

Roy N. Pasker, DO '65, Psychiatry



Dr. Pasker was my mentor and the individual who motivated me to become a psychiatrist. The psychiatry rotation at the Hospital of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine was my first clinical rotation. Dr. Pasker made the experience far more than just a single experience; he continued to guide me through my training as a student, as an intern and as a resident at Norristown State Hospital.

His manner of communicating and establishing a rapport with patients was always filled with understanding, compassion and a realistic point of view. He constantly reminded his students to “flip it around—if you were the patient, how would you feel?”

I continue to use the skills he taught during that first clinical rotation every day in my practice.

Over the years, our relationship has continued to develop into one of friendship and collegiality. Through his guidance and assistance, I assumed leadership roles that continue today.

—Ronald Paolini, DO '85
Psychiatrist, Neuroscience Rehabilitation Center, Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, Georgia

Mary Jane Showers, PhD, Anatomy



In September of 1976, I first entered Evans Hall with a very limited idea of what being a physician meant. I had an embryonic, poorly thought out and overly romantic concept of becoming a small-town practitioner in Maine, complete with a wardrobe exclusively from L. L. Bean. My first semester is a bit of blur now, consisting largely of recollections of Dr. Cipolla's bimanual anatomic drawings on the chalkboard and the knowledge that I would fit into the PCOM community.

Then came second semester, Dr. Showers and my professional epiphany.

Dr. Showers was the antithesis of the good first impression. She was emblematic of the great lasting impression. She

never attempted to be entertaining or nurturing. To the uninterested and befuddled, I suspect there was nothing notable about her teaching style. But for me, by illuminating the unique organization, structure and function of the nervous system in her dedicated and committed style, she provided insight not only into the workings of others' minds, but into my own as well.

In retrospect, I never looked good in flannel. Yet I remain indebted to Mary Jane (as she was known behind her back), who was more than anyone else the catalyst for what has been for me a very fulfilling and never regretted professional life in neurology.

—James A. Russell, DO '80
Vice Chairman, Neurology; Director, ALS Clinic; Chairman, Ethics Section; and Clinical Professor of Neurology, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts

Daniel L. Wisely, DO, Surgery



I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Wisely, director of medical education (DME) at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, during my rotating internship there from 1986 to

1987. Dr. Wisely not only supervised the hospital interns and taught them general surgery, but he also counseled and encouraged an overall healthy lifestyle and approach to professional life. Dr. Wisely was kind, caring and interested in all aspects of our work and lives, and he was a constant source of inspiration to all of us. Dr. Wisely lived an exemplary life both professionally and personally.

If an intern was not always perfect or needed help with his or her work, Dr. Wisely never criticized or corrected; he simply imparted his experience. He was always available for questions and ever at patients' bedsides to comfort (both patients and nervous interns).

At the end of my internship year, I was asked to schedule a time to meet with Dr. Wisely to review my progress. To a young doctor the thought of meeting with the DME might be a bit threatening, but I was so excited and looked forward to sitting down with Dr. Wisely to discuss my work in Philadelphia and to announce my plans for residency.

When I entered Dr. Wisely's office, I was met with the widest smile that I have ever seen. Dr. Wisely asked me to detail my residency plans and took great interest in Erie, Pennsylvania, the town where I was headed. We talked about the lake, the community, the snow, and St. Vincent Health Center, the hospital where I would study. We also talked about my family—my husband and new baby whom I would be taking with me to the “North.” I can honestly say that no one had ever been as excited about my future as Dr. Wisely was that day.

At the end of our conversation, I was struck by Dr. Wisely's willingness to reveal and reminisce about his own life, family and career. He talked so fondly about his wife and children and was so proud of all of their successes. He was full of love for them. As we shook hands to say our final goodbyes, Dr. Wisely stressed that his only regret in his long and prestigious career was that he did not spend enough time with his family. He admonished me, whatever I would do and wherever I would be, to remember that family comes first, and spend as much time and enjoy them as much as I could.

I cannot express how his words of devotion have guided me for the past 27 years. I strive to value my blessings and to recognize the importance of life balance. In doing so, I have been able to enjoy both of my passions—a successful career, and a beautiful family (my husband and five children, one of whom is a third-year medical student at PCOM).

During my first year of residency at St. Vincent's, I received word that Dr. Wisely had become ill and, later, passed away. I imagine that he may have known that he was ill or even terminal at the time of our meeting. This was never mentioned in our meeting; his concerns were only for me, as he did as he always did: used his days to teach, inspire, heal and love.

—Mary Russo-Colt, DO '86
Family Medicine, Saint Vincent Primary Care at Yorktown, Erie, Pennsylvania

MY FATHER'S PRECIOUS LEGACY

A reflection on the influence of Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO, upon his sons, his family, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the osteopathic profession

by Alexander S. Nicholas, DO '75, FAAO, professor, chair and residency program director, osteopathic manipulative medicine



Legacy—"something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past"—has proven to be one of the important functions of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine for me, and by connection, my family.

The Nicholas/PCOM legacy began with my father, Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO, FAAO. "Dr. Nick" moved from Boston to Philadelphia following the end of World War II. In 1946, he joined the College's faculty, lecturing on public health, osteopathic techniques and sports medicine. He became chair and first whole-time faculty member of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP) in 1973, posts that he held for 14 years [he retired in 1987 and passed away in 1994]. Under his direction, my father expanded the College department to include five whole-time faculty members dedicated to teaching OMT.

Throughout his tenure, my father emerged as a seminal figure in the field, a pioneer who not only shaped practice methods that continue to be used today, but who increased the application of traditional osteopathic techniques among generations of osteopathic physicians. He is also credited for his dedicated work on the formation of the first American Osteopathic Association approved OPP residency in the United States. Prior to his work, many osteopathic physicians, in general, had shifted away from the use of osteopathic techniques.

As a child, I noticed that everyone seemed to know my father. Wherever we went, there was a very positive response by all who encountered him; he was super-extroverted. Perhaps it was this reaction that people had to him—and how they would revel in his care for them—that made it difficult for me to think of entering any other occupation. All other occupations seemed to be trivialized as I listened to these patients.

Because so many in our community employed him as their family physician, I incorrectly assumed he was an allopathic physician. I did not know about the osteopathic profession until a tenth-grade health class teacher noted that DOs were physicians who could not prescribe or inject medications or perform surgery. Half of my classmates looked distraught, appealing to me to explain why my father had given them flu shots, injected penicillin, drained their knees. I raced home to query my father. The next day he lodged a complaint with the superintendent of the school system and made sure the teacher no longer disseminated erroneous information about the osteopathic profes-



"Throughout his tenure, my father emerged as a seminal figure in the field, a pioneer who not only shaped practice methods that continue to be used today, but who increased the application of traditional osteopathic techniques among generations of osteopathic physicians."

sion. He educated me about the profession too—a distinction I should have known, as the sign on his office had always clearly been marked "N. S. Nicholas, DO – Osteopathic Physician."

While growing up, I often wondered how a young, first-generation Greek American from Brockton, Massachusetts, ended up in Kirksville, Missouri, in 1935 as a student at the American School of Osteopathy (now Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine). One day, I pressed him for an answer. He related that his idol was an osteopathic physician in Brockton, and he wanted to care for patients in the same manner.

After graduating from the American School of Osteopathy, my father enrolled at Tufts University to complete his undergraduate coursework so that he could also get an allopathic degree, as the Boston area did not recognize osteopathic medicine in those days. The war put an end to this goal, and he joined the Navy, ending up at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital and its Division of Rehabilitation in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. There he

became friends with dancer/actor/singer Gene Kelly; their friendship continued throughout my father's lifetime.

When I enrolled at PCOM, I did so because I wanted to learn the things that seemed to separate my father from his allopathic colleagues. The College was a great match for me, but with my father being a member of the faculty, some of his cohorts liked to tease and sometimes even torture me. Dr. Robert L. Meals, DO '56, radiology, would especially pick on me. When he projected an X-ray, the words "Nicholas, you'd better be correct" would follow, as would the threat that he'd give all the students in my row the same grade as me. For some reason, I was very fond of his attention; maybe there was some underlying masochism there. But the extra kindhearted attention from faculty (including as well Albert F. D'Alonzo, DO '56, cardiology, and Robert H. Jama, DO '69, surgery) made me feel as if I had a bunch of big brothers who drive you crazy on the one hand but, on the other, protect and bring you along safely.

During my third- and fourth-year clinical rotations, physicians—many chiefs of departments—would ask if I was related to "big Nick." When I said yes, they would take me to the ER, remove their ties, tell me their pains, and appeal to me to treat them with OMT. As I treated them, they would correct any mistakes with a teasing jocular, but mostly they were grateful for the little bit of help I could provide. Over time, they forced me to be better. I *had* to be better—because everywhere I went, some chair of a department would be loosening his tie! Thus, the knowledge and art of OMM/OMT was passed on to me by many of the physicians who knew and respected my father.

In 1978, my brother Evan Nicholas, DO '81, also enrolled at PCOM. Upon graduation and subsequent completion of his internship, Evan turned down an offer to join an orthopedic surgery residency in Harrisburg, Penn-

sylvania—one of the most competitive programs in the country. His desire, he discovered, was to return to PCOM and to complete the OMM residency. He sought to develop the diagnostic and treatment skills to become an expert in OMT so as to treat his patients with his hands—the same way our father did.

Today, I proudly serve as professor, chair and residency program director of the Department of Osteopathic Medicine at PCOM. My father passed this mantle of leadership on to me in 1987. Evan is an associate professor in the department; we work side-by-side, continuing to fulfill the legacy our father commenced. Together, we have co-authored *Atlas of Osteopathic Techniques* (Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2008), an expanded version of our father's text from the late 1970s.

We remain in awe of our father's leadership and accomplishments. And we remain inspired by how beloved he truly was—by all his patients, from all walks of life. They included many celebrity composers; musicians; Olympic athletes; and professional baseball, basketball and football players—many alumni would know the names of some of the Philadelphia Phillies who visited our father's office on the way to the 1980 World Series Championship. We are still uncovering new patient stories.

Today, the Nicholas family legacy continues. My daughter, Veronica Nicholas Mahon, DO '10, presently serves as one of the chief residents in obstetrics/gynecology at Lankenau Medical Center, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania. Her husband, my son-in-law, David Mahon, DO '10, is one of the chief residents in the Temple University School of Medicine Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation program in Philadelphia. And my daughter-in-law, Mary Tsakiris, graduated from PCOM's Physician Assistant program in 2012; she is now working with a dermatologist in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Nicholas has served as professor, chair and residency program director of osteopathic manipulative medicine at PCOM since 1987. He is a 1975 graduate of the College and a fellow of the American Academy of Osteopathy. Dr. Nicholas was honored with the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1996 and the Chapel of the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award in 1981. He also received the Frederic J. Solomon, DO Award of Merit from the Pennsylvania Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians in 1999. In 2005 he received an AOA Mentor Hall of Fame Award.

*His writings and research have been published in national and international journals, and his co-authored text, *Atlas of Osteopathic Techniques*, is recognized as the most complete text on osteopathic manipulative techniques. Dr. Nicholas has lectured extensively; in addition, he directs osteopathic manipulative medicine educational programs in Germany and Austria.*

PCOM students benefit from a superior OMM program; faculty include Drs. Alexander S. Nicholas (pictured front left) and Evan A. Nicholas (pictured to the right of his brother).



LOVE AND CHANGE

A health crisis compels a longtime physician to re-evaluate his approach to teaching and practicing preventative patient care

by William A. Delp, Jr., DO, assistant professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine, Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine



Often, for physicians, it is the experience of a personal health crisis that brings about a clarity of thinking, altering hardened approaches to patient care. I had just such an epiphany nine years ago when my wife

and best friend of 31 years suffered an unexpected heart attack.

Lee was a typical female with a very atypical presentation, and she unfortunately lost myocardial muscle by the time we realized the event was not a gastric response to a greasy meal.

She had not had any prior angina. In fact, she had paddled an ocean kayak up to four miles a day just two weeks before the event. Nevertheless, Lee lost a large part of her posterior left ventricle, causing both decreased output and mitral regurgitation from papillary muscle loss.

Four days later she had a triple bypass and a valve repair. The repair failed as intracardiac pressures returned to normal and the mitral regurgitation returned. At age 61, she now lives with medically managed congestive heart failure.

The shock of nearly losing my wife caused me to re-evaluate my approach to arteriosclerotic heart disease prevention. Until that time, I thought I was as aggressive as a cardiologist at managing lipids. Yet I quickly discovered that most physicians in general know little about risk evaluation and the complex management of dyslipidemia. I began to study everything I could find on the subject. I have since become board eligible in clinical lipidology (a specialty pursued mostly by lipid “geeks” who are primary care docs like me). I discovered the National Lipid Association and after joining and attending their educational meetings, I made contact with many of the authorities in the field. I have had personal conversations with many of them and consider them to be my mentors.

Truth be told, for over 20 years, physicians have been bombarded by statin manufacturers. They have been led to believe that statins are the best treatment for all lipid problems. Although they are the first step in most situations, the reality is that each patient should receive a personal risk evaluation based on family history, standard risk factors and, in most cases, advanced lipid testing. Treatment must be tailored to the individual.

It is my belief that the pivotal Framingham Heart Study leads to complacency. According to the study, my wife’s ten-year risk was less than five percent; applying the study’s risk assessments, I scored my patients in a similar fashion, but only as an initial step. Using only Framingham risk and Adult Treatment Panel III of the National Cholesterol



Dr. Delp with his wife, Lee.

Education Program guidelines blindly can lead to disaster for the patient.

Today, I have a new approach to treatment (my wife having been the catalyst for the change). I manage Lee’s lipid levels, while her cardiologist takes care of her heart. Although she lacks a lot of the vigor she had, I still have my best friend by my side as we grow older and enjoy time with our grandchildren.

Last year, I was blessed with the opportunity to join the full-time faculty at Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, teaching osteopathic manipulative medicine, which has always been a big part of my practice. My post affords me didactic and clinical interaction with future generations of osteopathic medical physicians. While I focus upon examining and treating the musculoskeletal system, I also integrate my unique knowledge of lipidology in class, through non-credit lectures and through activities sponsored by the Family Medicine Club. I feel compelled to prepare GA-PCOM graduates to protect their future patients. Had I possessed this knowledge in the past, the health of both my wife and my patients would have been improved. Sadly, it really can take a crisis to shock us into moving forward.

Dr. Delp joined the GA-PCOM faculty in 2005, first as adjunct clinical professor and now as full-time assistant professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine. A private practitioner since 1976, Dr. Delp has held clinical faculty positions at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and Emory University School of Medicine.



PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS

Faculty: In Their Own Words

1 David Kuo, DO '96; *Assistant Dean, Graduate Medical Education, and Director, Medical Education of the Philadelphia Consortium Internship/Residency Programs; Faculty at PCOM for 14 years*

"When I see my former students and residents succeeding in their professional lives, it gives me great satisfaction knowing that I was a part of their education. I am so proud of them—like a parent when he sees his children achieve."

2 Gregory McDonald, DO '89; *Professor; Vice Chairman of the Department of Bio-Medical Sciences; and Program Director, Forensic Medicine; Faculty at PCOM for 14 years*

"As a graduate of PCOM, I feel deeply connected to the institution, faculty and students. For this reason I feel obligated to share my knowledge and experience with our outstanding students."

3 Elizabeth A. Gosch, PhD, ABPP; *Professor, Department of Psychology, and Director, MS Program in Counseling and Clinical Health Psychology; Faculty at PCOM for 14 years*

"I teach at PCOM because of the strong supportive sense of community here and the high quality of the students. It's exciting and challenging to engage students in the learning process. I gain a great deal of satisfaction from seeing the success of our alumni and mentoring them through educational and life challenges. I also have the sense that we are improving the quality of mental healthcare in our community through our well-trained, highly competent graduates."

4 Richard A. Pascucci, DO '75, FACOI; *Vice Dean for Clinical Education; Faculty at PCOM for 24 years*

"To have played any part in the medical education of the outstanding PCOM graduate has provided me with an extremely rewarding career."

5 Pat Anthony Lannutti, DO '71, MSc; *Director of Systems Based Medicine; Chair, Division of General Internal Medicine; Vice Chair, Department of Internal Medicine; and Director of Medical Education, Roxborough Memorial Hospital; Faculty at PCOM for 26 years*

"Margaret Leech wrote of 'the audacity of conception which subdues or inspirits timid minds.' Since teaching at PCOM in various capacities beginning in 1971, I hope to have enlightened our students (our best asset) and that the flame will burn long after my time span."

6 Camille DiLullo, PhD; *Professor, Department of Bio-Medical Sciences; Faculty at PCOM for 19 years*

"We learn best when we are engaged in endeavors that interest or excite us. I encourage learners to explore knowledge through the lens of their professional passions."

7 Farzaneh Daghigh, PhD; *Professor, Department of Bio-Medical Sciences; Faculty at PCOM for 16 years*

"I teach my students to pursue knowledge for their personal and professional developments, to be self-motivated, and to study to learn for a lifetime, not just for a test. Teaching at PCOM has provided me an incredible opportunity for continual learning and growth. The valuable aspect of teaching at PCOM for me has been the positive interactions and friendships I have had with students, colleagues and staff."

8 Daniel J. Parenti, DO '87, FCCP, FACOI; *Professor and Chair, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine; Faculty at PCOM for 18 years*

"Teaching pulmonary and critical care medicine to students, interns and residents keeps me intellectually curious, energetic, enthusiastic and up-to-date. It is a pleasure to interact with these young physicians every day. I am proud to be a part of PCOM, whose outstanding reputation for medical education has been recognized for generations."

9 Laura Molloy, MMS, PA-C; *Associate Professor and Assistant Program Director, Physician Assistant Studies; Faculty at PCOM for 14 years*

"PCOM encourages innovation and academic freedom, which makes implementation of new curricular elements seamless. Finding creative ways to introduce material to students is one reason I enjoy my job."

10 Jeffrey Branch, EdD; *Program Director and Assistant Professor, Organizational Development and Leadership; Faculty at PCOM for 8 years*

"My work at PCOM is to intentionally design transformative action learning experiences that will produce practitioner leaders who are confident in their abilities to facilitate change. These leaders focus on self-awareness—understanding how leaders impact others in a group setting and how others impact them, embracing how they can lead change and shift their organization system from any level, and how they can leverage practices and skills to have an impact in their diverse communities."

11 Frederick J. Goldstein, PhD, FCP; *Professor of Department of Bio-Medical Sciences; Faculty at PCOM for 21 years*

"In 1992 I was invited to apply to PCOM for a position in the then-named Physiology/Pharmacology Department. I quickly decided to do so because I knew that this medical school has education as its top priority—my major professional goal. I also wanted to delve more deeply into clinical research, which I would design to improve treatment of pain. I began my tenure here in 1993 and since then have always enjoyed my role in the pharmacologic education of our medical students. In addition, I have been conducting human investigations to advance management of pain. PCOM is the best institution with which I have ever been associated."

FROM AN OBSERVER

My initial encounters with clinical medicine

by Bonnie Buxton, PhD, professor, microbiology; chair, biomedical sciences, osteopathic medical program; and assistant dean, osteopathic curriculum, GA-PCOM



I joined Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2005, as one of the first faculty recruits. I was hired to teach microbiology and immunology. Of all the titles the College has graciously given me, professor is the one I hold

most dear. There is nothing I like better than being in the classroom. While I love to share with students the fascination of the subjects I teach, helping to shape students into physicians is a more important responsibility and one that I share with all faculty.

When I began teaching osteopathic medical students in 1985, I had little understanding of the awesome responsibility I would possess. It was not until I began to go on rounds with an infectious disease specialist that I started to appreciate the impact that physicians have in the lives of people who are desperately ill. I spent two weeks a year, for about eight years, going on rounds with a physician. The excerpt that follows recounts some of my initial encounters with the doctor I followed and his patients. The entry, published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, portrays an experience that forever changed how I approach my role as a medical educator, and gave me a deep appreciation for the profession and the students entering it.

I wrote to an infectious disease specialist, requesting to join him on rounds for a few weeks. But then I set the letter aside. What was I afraid of? Doctors for one thing. I knew what they were really like. Physicians refer to patients by their diseases, not by their names. They are arrogant and abusive to residents on their service. What if they asked me questions? My second fear was just as irrational. I had seldom been around sick people. And the times that I have, I did not conduct myself very well. What if it happened again?

I spent a month mentally preparing myself. At last, I mailed the letter and went to the hospital, finally seeing patients with some of the diseases I had taught about for years. The suffering of patients afflicted with those maladies touched me deeply. This story is about just a few of the patients. It's also a story of my own growth and my glimpse on being a doctor.

On the first morning, I waited in the hospital lobby to meet Dr. Brewer, my stomach in knots. He arrived, we shook hands and I thought, "He seems pleasant; so far, so good." The first patients I saw were in the intensive care unit. We went first to a central workstation where the charts were located. As Dr. Brewer reviewed a chart, I looked around at the darkened, glass-sided rooms with beds where people lay attached to tubes and IVs. There was a hum of machinery



and a flickering of lights from TV sets families watched in patients' rooms while they waited for a miracle to happen.

Dr. Brewer explained about Mr. Hall, who had been in a car accident and had numerous injuries. He had been on the unit for several months and had had a fever for weeks. His condition was deteriorating. I looked over to the room as Dr. Brewer spoke. Mr. Hall appeared to be in his sixties. Although his eyes were open, he seemed unaware of his surroundings. A man stood over his bed, his son I presumed, speaking loudly, as though the volume of his words could penetrate his father's consciousness.

"You stay with us now," he said, his voice shaking, "You stay with us."

With a lump in my throat, I turned back to Dr. Brewer as he talked of the bacteria they had isolated and the antibiotics he was taking. I thought for the first of many times, "My God, how do you do this?"

Leaving the intensive care unit, we walked up the stairs discussing Roberto, the next patient we were about to see. Dr. Brewer always told me their names and, often, a few details of their life. It was clear he knew them not just as patients but as people. I began to think that my image of physicians was not entirely correct.

Roberto was the first of many patients with AIDS that I saw. He was hospitalized with pneumocystis pneumonia. Allergic to trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, he was receiving intravenous pentamidine and was recovering from the pneumonia very slowly. I wrote all this down in my notebook. By focusing on the facts, I could escape the emotions I was trying not to feel. Roberto was propped up in bed,

receiving oxygen. His chest heaved, his nostrils flared, and his sentences were punctuated by gasps every few words. As he talked, he looked from Dr. Brewer to me and back again. He must have thought I was another physician.

"Don't look horrified," I thought. "He thinks you're a doctor! Try to look compassionate . . . or is it empathetic?"

Our eyes met, I smiled, and thought, "Not that smile, that's the pity smile." Roberto knew it too and turned away. It was then that I began to watch the way Dr. Brewer interacted with his patients. He had a calm demeanor, and it seemed as if he could look into their eyes and tell them something beyond the words he spoke. I thought that if I just watched him, I could try to give the same nonverbal message he did. It wasn't quite so easy, as I found when I met Adam.

Adam, Dr. Brewer explained, was "a nice young man, a solid citizen." He said that about quite a few people. Brewer told me Adam was a textbook example of what AIDS can do to a person. He had had diarrhea for the past few months and, thus, had lost 40 pounds. We talked about what might be the cause, which had not yet been determined. I knew this stuff! I had read many articles about this! I was thinking cryptosporidiosis or cytomegalovirus or maybe. . . . Then I saw him.

"With a lump in my throat, I turned back to Dr. Brewer as he talked of the bacteria they had isolated and the antibiotics he was taking. I thought for the first of many times, 'My God, how do you do this?'"

Adam Higgins was not much more than a skeleton. The skin was stretched tight over his gaunt face. His large brown eyes were sunk deep into their sockets. Still, his face showed that he had once been a handsome youth. I had a lump in my throat again. My thoughts raced back to 10 years ago. I was a graduate student. Paul Schnurin, one of the faculty members in our department, was hospitalized with a mysterious ailment affecting his entire gastrointestinal system. I visited him shortly after he went into the hospital, bringing some chocolate. That was my first mistake. Weeks become months, and he was still in the hospital. His family and I were members of the same church; I spoke to his wife on occasion. Like so many of us who meant well, I said I was sure he would get better. Everyone was praying. He had to get better. But the robust man I had known as teacher and scientist became horribly thin and frail, much the way Adam looked. Visiting Paul again, I stood at the entrance to his room, horrified. Tears came to my eyes, but they were not tears for him. They were a response to fear. Overcome with shock, I ran from the room. Now as I looked at Adam, those memories washed over me again. This time I could not run.

I had spent two weeks at the hospital when I saw Chris. He too had AIDS. Before this latest illness, he was an

exceedingly intelligent and successful young man. Now he had neurologic symptoms from lymphoma in the brain and was receiving radiation treatments. The curtains in his room were closed, creating a somber appearance despite the bright summer day. The air was warm and heavy, and I noticed a faint odor of perspiration. Chris was curled on his side in his bed, his hair flattened against his head from sleep. His puffy face made him look childlike. In his arms he held a teddy bear.

Dr. Brewer stood by his bed. The radiation treatments did not seem to be working. "We'll try a few other things," he said, trying to sound hopeful.

Chris said nothing. He stared at the wall, holding the teddy bear tighter, as Dr. Brewer spoke.

I thought of my lecture on neurologic complications of AIDS. I teach about AIDS dementia complex, caused by the virus itself. Lymphomas I include almost as an afterthought. On a darkened stage in front of 160 students, I saw myself lecturing callously about diseases, detached from the people suffering from them. I could hear myself saying stolidly,

"Similar symptoms may be caused by primary lymphomas of the central nervous system . . ."

That was all the time I spent on the subject. Yet here before me was a young man with "primary lymphoma of the central nervous system," one who should have so much more of his life left to live, and he was dying. Part of me wanted to stay with him, so he would not be alone. It occurred to me suddenly that I no longer felt overwhelmed by the urge to retreat from the suffering I saw. I was making progress.

I am back at my desk now, sheltered by books and journals as before. The goal of the weeks I spent on rounds was certainly met—I saw some of the maladies on which I lecture, and now I speak about these diseases with more confidence. But I am not the same. The experience has changed me. I had never before seen people clinging precariously to life. Pain and suffering were a reality whose existence I had tried to deny. Even a brief exposure to these patients' utter vulnerability caused me to lose some of my naivete. I have a fresh admiration for the job of physicians and particularly for my students as I think of them caring for people in physical and emotional turmoil. It is an awesome responsibility.

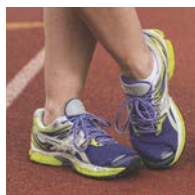
Entry reprinted with permission from the *Annals of Internal Medicine

Dr. Buxton holds a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and master's and doctoral degrees from the Veterinary School at Auburn University. She did postdoctoral fellowships in cancer biology in the Pathology Department of the Veterinary School and in cancer immunology at Kansas University School of Medicine, where she served as a Wesley Fellow in Cancer Research. Prior to joining GA-PCOM, Dr. Buxton spent 20 years on the faculty of the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, where she taught immunology, microbiology and international medicine. She also served as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Immunology, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics of the Kansas University School of Medicine.

A TEAM APPROACH

Three clinical psychology faculty keep on track—on and off the track

by David McKay Wilson



Petra Kottsieper, PhD, assistant professor of clinical psychology, usually runs alone, putting in three to five miles, three times a week, as she trains for races like the Blue Cross Broad Street Run, the world's largest 10-mile race. She was one of 40,000 who ran

in downtown Philadelphia on May 5 in this year's race.

But Dr. Kottsieper also keeps in shape at PCOM's Activity Center, and she does so with two Psychology Department colleagues: Suzie Panichelli Mindel, PhD, assistant professor of clinical psychology and research director, and Stacey Cahn, PhD, associate professor of clinical psychology.

"Having friends along can provide the motivation needed to persevere with the free weights and exercise machines that can build muscles, and stamina. We'll get on the machines together—before or after work—and chat as we torture ourselves," says Dr. Kottsieper. "Adding the social dimension makes it a little more fun. You might lift a 10-pound weight instead of an eight-pounder. And when you do it with a colleague, you create a bond that goes beyond the gym door."

Dr. Cahn says the benefits of their workouts together extend to the Psychology Department, where Dr. Mindel coordinates the doctoral students as they complete their dissertations. Dr. Cahn co-teaches a course in statistics, while Dr. Kottsieper co-teaches research methods.

"Petra will come to me for consultation on statistical analysis, and I'll come to her with other research issues," says Dr. Cahn. "Petra, Suzie and I work closely together within the department, and it has been beneficial to train together outside of the office. We run, we take fitness classes and use a personal trainer together. In all ways, we help motivate each other."

In the field of psychology, practitioners speak about what's called "self-care"—the way individuals act to maintain their physical and mental health. Dr. Mindel says exercise can play a central role in self-care, improving one's physical condition and one's attitude at work and at home.

"To function at the highest level professionally, it's important to take care of ourselves," Dr. Mindel says. "Physical exercise provides me with more energy and patience. It helps me maintain a healthy mindset."

Dr. Kottsieper likes the challenge that running presents, and the feeling it gives her after a long run. "The first five or 10 minutes can be tough," she says. "But at the end of it, you have that endorphin rush. You feel good physically and mentally. It can also lead to other healthy behaviors."

Running a road race, as Dr. Kottsieper has done for years, can focus one's training. Drs. Cahn and Mindel joined her in 2011 for the annual Moorestown Thanksgiving Day 5K Turkey Trot, to benefit the local high school cross-country team. Drs. Cahn and Mindel ran the cross-country race together in 2012; the trio is looking forward to another holiday run in November 2013.

"We want to make it an annual tradition," says Dr. Mindel. "I really value the camaraderie we've developed and the goals we've set as a team."

Drs. Cahn, Kottsieper and Mindel





Lance Semien, media audio-visual specialist, management information systems and telecommunications; Russ Tzonev, sergeant, public safety; Dr. Okamoto; Laura Lee (PharmD '16); Mr. Shutter; Ms. Heer; and Xinyu (Eric) Wang, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacy practice, school of pharmacy.

LUCKY STRIKE

Pharmacy faculty, staff and students find lively competition and collegiality on the lanes

by David McKay Wilson



Five years ago, Walter Shutter, PharmD '15, dreamed of life on the Professional Bowlers Association tour. He'd been named Middle Georgia's Young Male Bowler of the Year, and had just bowled a 300—his first of three perfect games.

But Mr. Shutter eventually decided that his career prospects were more promising in pharmacy, with bowling to become his top hobby. Upon his arrival in 2012 at PCOM School of Pharmacy – Georgia Campus in Suwanee, Georgia, he discovered the school had a student softball team, but lacked a bowling league. Before long, he'd set one up at the Stars and Strikes bowling lanes, with 16 faculty, staff and students and a handful of spouses.

The timing couldn't have been better for Mark Okamoto, PharmD, dean and chief academic officer, who had taken up bowling in January 2011. Less than 18 months after picking up a ball, he rolled 280, showing mastery of the finesse game that requires strength, rhythm, nerves and focus.

When Dr. Okamoto played on the PCOM School of Pharmacy team in the fall, they won the league. He especially marvels at his teammate's prowess: "When Walt is on, the pins explode," Dr. Okamoto says. "They are flying everywhere."

Dr. Okamoto, the school's founding dean, came to Georgia Campus – PCOM in 2009 and opened the Gwinnett County doctoral program with a charter class of 79 students in 2010.

Dr. Okamoto says the bowling league is a great way to deepen relationships between professors and students, and

build the campus community. "It's great for socializing—a low-pressure way of getting together," says Dr. Okamoto. "You get to know students on a personal level. It's nice to see them in a different environment, without the stress of exams."

Colleen Heer, an administrative assistant in the Pharmaceutical Sciences Department, hadn't bowled for decades since her childhood in Boston's northern suburbs. She decided to give it a try, and recruited her husband, Chris, to participate as well.

"Everybody left their egos at the door," says Ms. Heer, who bowled 203 one night. "Everybody was encouraging. It was friendly competition. And it made you want to go back."

John Kermode, PhD*, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, who had bowled as a child in England, joined the league in the fall of 2012. He enjoyed the opportunity to socialize with other professional staff, whom he'd mostly interacted with in the classroom or at meetings. Dr. Kermode had found his groove in the fall, ringing up a score of 184. Come spring, he teamed up with the Heers to place third, and split \$75. The league was handicapped, with bowlers' handicap calculated by taking the difference between 200 and their average score, and multiplying it by 0.9.

"The best strategy was to do very badly at the beginning, and then improve," Dr. Kermode says. "That meant people who were not used to bowling could do well, if they improved progressively."

"I really have enjoyed the company of my team members, the competition and collegiality."

**Sadly, Dr. Kermode passed away in July. His obituary can be found on page 36.*

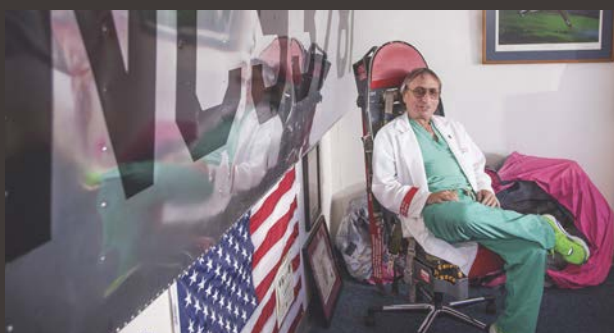
FUN FACULTY SPACES



Faculty often gather in the Provost's Office. Pictured are Antoinette Manago, secretary; Nicole Dillard, administrative assistant; Kenneth J. Veit, DO '76, MBA, provost, senior vice president for academic affairs and dean; and Ruth Wian, supervisor, Provost's Office.



The classroom is a favorite spot for Brian M. Matayoshi, PhD, professor, department of bio-medical sciences, GA-PCOM.



Arthur Sesso, DO '81, chairman, professor, and general surgery residency program director and general surgery clerkship program director, has an unconventional faculty office. In it he houses a number of specimens of aviation history, including a desk chair crafted from an emergency ejection seat.



Forensic Medicine "crime scene props" across from the faculty office of Peggy Stewart, PhD, professor, department of bio-medical sciences (pictured with Cliff Akiyama, MA, MPH, assistant professor, department of bio-medical sciences).



The colorful faculty office (adorned with cheerful poppy flowers and bright paper lanterns) of Shari Allen, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacy practice.



The research lab of Qian Chen, PhD, research assistant professor, department of bio-medical sciences (middle), is a place for serious scientific investigation (with a side of delight).

"About five years ago, I moved from an office in Rowland Hall to my current office in Evans Hall. I 'live' in a little side hallway that includes the Forensic Medicine program faculty offices. The space holds a variety of mannequins (heads, bodies and limbs—some with 'blood' on them).

I can't tell you how many times my heart did a little jump when a door was open and I walked past and saw these things. I am not squeamish (having done dissection and working with brains of both humans and animals), but it still was a bit of a surprise to see a 'recently dead victim' in an office.

Just a kinda funny thing that only can happen at a medical school . . ." — Dr. Stewart

CLASS OF 1945

Arnold Melnick, DO, Aventura, FL, retired executive vice chancellor and provost, Health Professions Division, Nova Southeastern University, had his 10th and 11th books published: *Melnick on Writing: An Anthology of Columns from the American Medical Writers Association Journal* (AuthorHouse, November 2012) and *Osteopathic Tales: Stories Tracing One DO's Travel Along the Path of the Osteopathic Profession from Rejection and Discrimination to Recognition and Acceptance* (AuthorHouse, April 2013).

CLASS OF 1954

Archie B. Attarian, DO, Grand Blanc, MI, is a clinical associate professor emeritus at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

CLASS OF 1961

Donald R. Stoltz, DO, Philadelphia, PA, had his book *Classroom Times—Charactoons and Rhymes* (Strategic Book Publishing, June 2011; available through Amazon.com) chosen as the "Best Children's Book of the Year" at the World Book Awards in London. Dr. Stoltz was awarded a glass trophy.

CLASS OF 1963

Allan Goldberg, DO, Scottsdale, AZ, was inducted as a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association at their annual meeting in San Francisco. Dr. Goldberg is retired from the practice of psychiatry.

CLASS OF 1966

Irwin Beckman, DO, Pittsburgh, PA, retired in October 2013 after over 40 years of practicing radiology. Dr. Beckman is looking forward to spending more time with family and friends. He will "always remember those PCO days and his great classmates, a truly pivotal time in the history of the osteopathic profession."

H Michael Zal, DO, Upper Gwynedd, PA, had his book, *Ten Steps to Relieve Anxiety: Refocus, Relax and Enjoy Life*, published by New Horizon Press (October 2013). Dr. Zal explores the emotional and physical aspects of anxiety and the treatment options available, and then illustrates his techniques and treatments to handle anxiety.

CLASS OF 1969

Sally Ann Rex, DO, Northampton, PA, was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Rex is the founder and medical director of Health Dimensions in Bethlehem.

CLASS OF 1970

Joseph A. Dieterle, DO, Oxford, MD, was honored at PCOM's DO Commencement; during the ceremony, he was named professor emeritus. In June, he was presented with the PCOM Alumni Association Certificate of Honor, the association's highest honor.

CLASS OF 1971

Lewis J. Sims, DO, Orwigsburg, PA, retired from his family medicine practice after 40 years of serving the Orwigsburg area. Dr. Sims is looking forward to enjoying his retirement with his family.

CLASS OF 1974

Donald A. Barone, DO, Westampton, NJ, was a recipient of the 2013 Beacon Award presented by Kennedy Health System. Dr. Barone was a key leader in the development of Kennedy's Neuroscience Program.

CLASS OF 1976

James M. Levri, DO, Sarver, PA, hooded his son, **John Mario Levri, DO '13**, at PCOM's June Commencement. Dr. John Levri is an intern at San Antonio Military Medical Center.

CLASS OF 1977

Michael C. Saltzburg, DO, Hollidaysburg, PA, continues to serve his community and state. He performs ad hoc committee work with other representatives from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, comparing and contrasting state workers' compensation systems for the benefit of injured workers. He is also part of a think tank at the University of Pennsylvania; in this role he interacts with fellow physicians, lawyers and businessmen in concert with Wharton MBA students to suggest and explore improvements for patient care in the overall health system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

CLASS OF 1978

David A. Baron, DO, Altadena, CA, had his book *Clinical Sports Psychiatry: An International Perspective* published by Wiley Press (September 2013). Dr. Baron received the Hippocrates Award from the Hellenic Psychiatric Association for his work on biomarkers for concussion in athletes.

CLASS OF 1979

Paul Evans, DO, Carmel, IN, received the J.B. Kinsinger Plaque (highest physician award) presented by the Indiana Osteopathic Association in May 2013. In June, he served as a panelist on the WFYI radio program, "No Limits, The Doctor Shortage."

Timothy J. McCloskey, DO, Williamsport, PA, was re-elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. McCloskey is head of the Pediatric Allergy and Immunology Department at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville.

CLASS OF 1980

Lauren P. Argenio, DO, West Pittston, PA, was re-elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Argenio is a board-certified family physician practicing at InterMountain Medical Group in West Pittston.

Brooks Betts, II, DO, The Villages, FL, retired from his practice, Lehigh Valley Health Network, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in

Certificates of Merit

Bernard J. Bernacki, DO '81, Pittsburgh, PA, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians at the ACOFP Convention held in Las Vegas.

Frank A. E. Bonifacio, DO '60, Rumson, NJ, was the recipient of the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians at the ACOFP Convention held in Las Vegas.

Kathryn C. Lambert, DO '88, Marlton, NJ, was the recipient of the 2013 Physician of the Year Award presented by the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons at the Atlantic Regional Osteopathic Convention held in Atlantic City.

Susan L. Ledbetter, DO '99, Fort Lauderdale, FL, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians at the ACOFP Convention held in Las Vegas.

Theresa M. Molony, PsyD '09, Laurel Springs, NJ, was named New Jersey School Psychologist of the Year by the New Jersey Association of School Psychologists.

Justin R. Nudell, DO '03, Clearwater, FL, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Internists.

Michelle Zetoony Nudell, DO '03, Clearwater, FL, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Internists.

Richard A. Ortoski, DO '84, Erie, PA, was the recipient of the 2013 Family Physician of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society.

Joanne E. Perry, PsyD '10, Jackson, NJ, was elected president of the New Jersey Association of School Psychologists.

Dana C. Shaffer, DO '85, Pikeville, KY, was inducted as a Distinguished Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians at the ACOFP Convention held in Las Vegas.

Joan M. Watkins, DO '72, Tampa, FL, was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians.

January. Dr. Betts joined The Villages Health, an innovative family practice located in The Villages, Florida. This new practice was developed to serve the largest retirement community in the United States, with the goal of providing improved quality of care for Medicare Part C patients in a comprehensive care setting.

REUNION WEEKEND 2013

The classes of 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1993 celebrated their reunions May 31–June 1, 2013. The weekend was filled with continuing medical education seminars; special anniversary and family luncheons; hotel hospitality suite gatherings at the Sheraton Valley Forge in King of Prussia; and PCOM campus activities including facility tours, educational demonstrations, and carnival-themed fun for alumni and their families. During the weekend, Alumni Association Certificates of Honor were presented to Joseph Dieterle, DO '70; Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO '77; and Pamela J. Ruoff, MS. Saturday evening culminated in a Grand Reception for all reunion classes.

Top: The Class of 1963 enjoys their 50th reunion.

Middle: Alumni Association Board Director Ricky Lockett, DO '84; Trustee J. Steven Blake, DO '89, MSc; Trustee Vincent Lobo, DO '65; Alumni Association Board Director Corwin Thomas, DO '95; and Alumni Association Board Director Harold Robinson, DO '90, are pictured at the alumni and family luncheon.

Bottom: Members of the Class of 1993. Pictured back row, left to right: Linda Fagan, DO; Clara Higgins, DO; Larissa Fernando Dominy, DO; and Katharine Palla, DO. Pictured front row, left to right: Kathleen Marici, DO; Mary Grotz, DO; Mahan Chehrenama, DO; and Supriya Massood, DO.



Thomas M. Bozzuto, DO, Albany, GA, medical director of Phoebe Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center, recently returned from Riyadh, where he was the only physician/faculty in the first Middle East primary training course in hyperbaric medicine in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre. Dr. Bozzuto was presented with a plaque and ceremonial Saudi sword by Professor Abdullah al Hokail, medical director of the King Faisal Hyperbaric Centre, and he was named Founding Fellow of the Academy for Physicians in Wound Care and Fellow of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society.

Robert S. Warner, DO, Lewiston ME, joined the medical staff at Central Maine Medical Center. Dr. Warner practices at Central Maine ENT Head and Neck Surgery.

CLASS OF 1981

Dennis W. Dobritt, DO, Bloomfield Hills, MI, was appointed to the Michigan Task Force on Physician's Assistants by Governor Rick Snyder.

John K. Mariani, DO, Haddonfield, NJ, was a recipient of the 2013 Beacon Award presented by Kennedy Health System. Dr. Mariani has been involved with several advances in orthope-

dic care, including being among the first orthopedic surgeons nationwide to use the OtisMed™ custom knee replacement system.

Michael Pawlowsky, DO, Bala Cynwyd, PA, had his article "House Calls: Cancer Screening Is the Key to Early Detection" published in the *Mercury* (June 24, 2013).

Francis E. Peluso, DO, Tulsa, OK, is very proud of his two sons who became DOs in May 2013. His son Nicholas graduated from Pikesville College of Osteopathic Medicine and will begin his residency at West Palm Spring Hospital in Florida. Christopher graduated from Des Moines College of Osteopathic Medicine and will begin his residency at Case Western in Cleveland.

John H. Potomski, Jr., DO, Melbourne, FL, was elected President of the Brevard County Medical Society and President of District 16 of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Potomski serves as chairman of the Board of the Florida Medical Directors Association and chairman of the Brevard County Commission on Aging.

Frank M. Tursi, DO, Erie, PA, was appointed to the Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine by Governor Tom Corbett.

CLASS OF 1982

Karen K. Brady, DO, Danville, PA, had her article "Keep Skin Safe This Summer" published in the *Express* (June 14, 2013). Dr. Brady is a dermatologist at Susquehanna Health Dermatology.

Joseph M. Kaczmarczyk, DO, Drexel Hill, PA, was named Mentor of the Year by the American College of Osteopathic Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOGG) and was additionally awarded the ACOOG Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Kaczmarczyk was named assistant dean of clinical education at PCOM. He is the first author on a paper titled "eProfessionalism: A New Frontier in Medical Education" published in *Teaching and Learning in Medicine* (March 26, 2013).

Benjamin L. Konell, DO, Gaines, PA, joined the medical staff at Laurel Health Centers in Westfield.

David J. Simons, DO, Lititz, PA, participated in "Doctors on Call," a television program broadcast by WGAL-TV on February 26, 2013. Doctors in the Susquehanna Valley volunteer their time to answer patient questions. Dr. Simon practices at Community Anesthesia Associates, Ltd.

CLASS OF 1983

Daniel F. Battafarano, DO, San Antonio, TX, was inducted as a Master in the American College of Physicians at the national meeting held in San Francisco in April. Dr. Battafarano is currently the chief of rheumatology services at Brooke Army Medical Center and an adjunct professor of medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

Mark E. Delowery, DO, Gulph Mills, PA, retired on March 1, 2013, as a captain in the U.S. Public Health Service after 20 years of service. Dr. Delowery was medical director at the Federal Occupational Health program, where he oversaw the provision of occupational health and preventive health services to over 1.5 million federal employees at 340 health and fitness centers nationwide. Dr. Delowery received the Meritorious Service Medal for his outstanding leadership and achievements during his tenure.

Carol L. Henwood, DO, Pottstown, PA, was elected President-Elect of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. Dr. Henwood is a board-certified family physician in private practice at Stowe Family Practice in Stowe.

Douglas E. Mazzuca, DO, Hockessin, DE, was elected President of the New Jersey Academy of Ophthalmology. His one-year term will begin in January 2014.

Richard Snow, DO, Columbus, OH, was appointed system vice president of clinical effectiveness at Ohio Health. Dr. Snow has also been appointed associate professor at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Kenneth E. Wood, DO, Danville, PA, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania.

CLASS OF 1984

Kenneth Heiles, DO, Harrogate, TN, was one of the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award presented by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians during their 2013 Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar held in Las Vegas.

William A. Hofmann, III, DO, Stone Harbor, NJ, was appointed administrative medical director of Cape Regional Physicians Associates, and has joined the medical staff at Cape Regional Physicians Associates practice in Stone Harbor.

Cynthia J. Mears, DO, Oak Park, IL, was promoted to clinical professor at Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University. Dr. Mears has presented at meetings for the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians and the National Osteopathic Medical Conference & Exposition.

Michele L. Mikolajczak, DO, Butler, PA, was appointed medical director of the Community Health Clinic of Butler County.

Karen M. Sciascia, DO, Northampton, PA, was a heroine to a 25-pound lunker (baby moose) she helped to rescue from a rushing river while on a recent fishing trip in southwestern Montana. Her tale was featured on Four Rivers



JEFF DOWNING, DO '97

Creating new memories to preserve old ones *by Colleen Pelc*

This past Fourth of July weekend was very special for Jeff Downing, DO '97, and ten other PCOM alumni who gathered in Brigantine, New Jersey. For this tight-knit group, reuniting is a common occurrence, but this year was like no other, for a number of reasons.

"Our PCOM group—at least in part—has assembled together each year for weddings, vacations, etc. This was the first year, though, when everyone was together at one time (a feat for busy physicians)," says Dr. Downing, who runs a private practice in Casselberry, Florida.

This year's reunion was designed to celebrate the memory of a special little girl who meant so much to so many. Dr. Downing's daughter, Caitlin, was diagnosed with Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) in January 2012. DIPG is a rare brainstem glioma that affects 250 children per year (usually between the ages of 4 and 12). For six to eight months most DIPG tumors respond to radiation, but then reoccur very aggressively. This was also true in Caitlin's case, and on November 11, 2012, the five-year-old passed away.

In memory of Caitlin, Dr. Downing, his wife Denise, and their three children joined their PCOM friends and their combined 21 children for three days of fun: a dinner at a Japanese restaurant, Fourth of July fireworks over Atlantic City, a visit to a water park in Ocean City, a beach day with sand sculptures, and time in an arcade that the group rented.

"The weekend had lots of Caitlin 'things' like rainbow shirts, Hello Kitty angels and Dylan's Candy Factory treats," Dr. Downing says.

"During her short life—and even throughout her illness—Caitlin made a huge impact on our community and anyone who was lucky enough to come in contact with her. Her story resonates with any parent with a child; we have shared her journey on our blog [cheeringforcaitlin.com](#)."

The Downings plan to turn Caitlin's blog into a book, and the couple hopes to help raise funds to support the research/clinical trials being conducted by Caitlin's pediatric neurosurgeon, Mark M. Souweidane, MD.

PCOM alumni (pictured above left to right): Chris Clark, DO '96; Eric Driscoll, DO '96; Caitlin Clark, DO '98; Dan Mulcahy, DO '96; Jeff Downing, DO '97; Jen Driscoll, DO '97; Brian Lang, DO '96; Gabe Catalina, DO '96; Staci Mulcahy, DO '96; Pat Grob, DO '96; and John Wheeler, DO '96.

Fishing Company's Facebook page, titled "Of Moose and Men."

CLASS OF 1985

Mark Jacobson, DO, Hummelstown, PA, was appointed senior vice president for medical affairs and chief medical officer at Ephrata Community Hospital.

Dana C. Shaffer, DO, Pikeville, KY, was appointed associate dean of graduate medical

education at the University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Shaffer was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award for his service to the state of Iowa and the osteopathic medical profession at the Iowa Osteopathic Medical Association conference held in May.

Robert Spadafora, DO, Kingman, AZ, joined the medical staff at Kingman Cardiovascular Associates.

The Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) presented membership awards during its House of Delegates meeting, a part of POMA's 105th Annual Clinical Assembly, held in May 2013. Honorees included:

40-YEAR AWARDS

James E. Blacksmith, DO '72, Lemoyne, PA
John M. Brooks, DO '73, Clarion, PA
Philip W. Deibert, DO '73, Yardley, PA
Thomas J. Dirnberger, DO '73, Tamaqua, PA
John M. Ferretti, II, DO '73, Erie, PA
David Ginsberg, DO '73, Villanova, PA
Gary D.A. Lewis, DO '67, Hummelstown, PA
Robert C. Luderer, DO '73, Clarion, PA
Richard J. Panicco, DO '73, Pittsburgh, PA
Ralph G. Rainey, DO '73, Media, PA
Donald J. Schnapf, DO '73, Willow Street, PA
James W. Sillaman, III, DO '72, Derry, PA
John S. Stevens, Jr., DO '73, Allentown, PA
Andrew J. Stuka, DO '73, Exeter, PA
George J. Vilushis, DO '73, Erie, PA
Harvey J. Yorker, DO '66, Cherry Hill, NJ

55-YEAR AWARDS

Leonard R. Fina, DO '57, Morgantown, PA
Jay Harris Joseph, DO '56, Bala Cynwyd, PA
Leonard M. Popowich, DO '58, Margate City, NJ

60-YEAR AWARDS

Lynn F. Brumm, DO '53, East Lansing, PA
Sidney Margulies, DO '53, Boca Raton, FL
E. Frank Muggler, DO '53, Warminster, PA
Gerson Schwartz, DO '53, Audubon, PA

70-YEAR AWARDS

Cecil Harris, DO '43, Wynnwood, PA
Morton S. Herskowitz, DO '43, Philadelphia, PA

The following physicians were recently granted life membership by the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association Board of Trustees:

Robert A. Ball, DO '65, Brigantine, NJ
Jonathan E. Beck, DO '72, Fort Washington, PA
Murray Brand, DO '69, Huntingdon Valley, PA
Ronald I. Cowen, DO '66, Saint Davids, PA
Carl G. DiJoseph, DO '77, Holland, PA
Richard M. DiMonte, DO '66, Philadelphia, PA
Richard R. DiPietro, DO '62, Windsor, PA
Thomas J. Dirnberger, DO '73, Tamaqua, PA
Ivan A. Doner, DO '68, Southampton, PA
Dennis L. Eckels, DO '75, Bolivar, PA
Ronald L. Eisenberg, DO '64, Southampton, PA
Burton H. Ginsberg, DO '69, Philadelphia, PA
Jerry M. Ginsberg, DO '65, Elkins Park, PA
Frederick C. Hawkins, Jr., DO '65, Wynnwood, PA
Anna M. Helt, DO '79, Philadelphia, PA
Carol J. Henderson-Neri, DO '72, Philadelphia, PA
Theodore P. Maurer, DO '62, Media, PA
Merrill J. Mirman, DO '66, Springfield, PA
Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO '77, Thornton, PA
A. Gary Oberholtzer, DO '77, Wildwood, NJ
Chester E. Smith, DO '58, Philadelphia, PA

CLASS OF 1986

David M. Brill, DO, Bay Village, OH, is the vice chairman of family practice for the Cleveland Clinic. He recently celebrated 25 years in practice.

Scott J. M. Lim, DO, Erie, PA, co-authored the article "Novel Use of Topical Dapsone 5% Gel for Erythema Elevatum Diutinum: Safer and Effective," published in the April 2013 issue of the *Journal of Drugs in Dermatology*. Dr. Lim is an adjunct clinical professor of dermatology at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and maintains a private dermatology practice in Erie.

Nicholas J. Pennings, DO, North Myrtle Beach, SC, became board certified in obesity medicine by the American Board of Obesity Medicine.

Michael J. Zawisza, DO, Orwigsburg, PA, was elected vice president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Zawisza opened his third general medical office in Orwigsburg with his son, **Joseph M. Zawisza, DO '05**.

CLASS OF 1987

Anthony E. DiMarco, DO, Kennett Square, PA, was re-elected speaker of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association's House of Delegates.

CLASS OF 1989

Captain Kris Belland, MC, USN, DO, Coronado, CA, was elected vice president for membership services at the Aerospace Medical Association.

Steven J. Halm, DO, Lewisburg, WV, was appointed associate professor and medical director of the Clinical Evaluation Center at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

John F. McCarthy, DO, Phoenixville, PA, co-authored a Case of the Month published in the May 1, 2013, issue of the *Journal of Emergency Medical Services*. The case was titled "Trouble at the Track: NASCAR Fan Presents with Significant Chest Pain and Numbness."

CLASS OF 1990

Henry R. Schuitema, DO, Medford, NJ, was named system-wide chief of emergency medicine at Kennedy University Hospitals.

Michael G. Wolford, DO, West Palm Beach, FL, joined the medical staff in the Emergency Department at Palm Beach Gardens Hospital.

CLASS OF 1992

Vincent N. Disabella, DO, Vineland, NJ, joined the medical staff at Inspira Medical Group in Centerton as a family medicine physician.

Elena Ruzzi Farrell, DO, Harrisburg, PA, was appointed to the Board of Directors of Susquehanna Valley Surgery Center, PinnacleHealth System. Dr. Farrell was nominated by Governor Tom Corbett for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine. On June 3, 2013, the Pennsylvania State Senate confirmed her appointment.

Charles F. Gorey, DO, Pottstown, PA, had his article "Of Primary Importance – Choosing a Primary Care Physician" published in *The Mercury* (March 25, 2013). Dr. Gorey is a member of the medical staff, Department of Family Medicine, at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center. He practices at Coventry Family Care in Pottstown.

Beth Ann Magnifico, DO, Ellwood City, PA, joined the medical staff at Ellwood City Hospital.

CLASS OF 1993

Steven K. Costalas, DO, Broomall, PA, is performing emergency nursing grand rounds regularly to enhance registered nurse knowledge, communication and safe patient care.

Michael J. Patney, DO, Jacksonville, FL, serves as Academic Quality Support Agreement Champion for the University of Florida/Jacksonville, medical director of the orthopedics inpatient unit for Shands Jacksonville and medical director of orthopedics for Northside Specialty Care Center.

ALUMNI RECEPTIONS AT OSTEOPATHIC CONFERENCES

The Office of Alumni Relations & Development hosted receptions at a number of osteopathic conferences held this past spring/summer.

At the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation (Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, Florida, March 2013), an alumni/student/parent/faculty reception was held. During the gathering, Evan A. Nicholas, DO '81, associate professor, OMM, presented a PCOM Alumni Association Certificate of Merit to David Coffey, DO '84, of Deatsville, Alabama. Dr. Coffey was inducted as president of the American Academy of Osteopathy during the convocation. He is also a member of the PCOM Alumni Association Board of Directors, representing the Southeast District.

Also in March, a reception in conjunction with the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) Convention was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Some 90 alumni, students and friends gathered to meet Kenneth J. Veit, DO '76, MBA, provost, senior vice president for academic affairs and dean; Pam Ruoff, MS, interim chief advancement officer; and Alisa Toney, MS, alumni relations & development officer, GA-PCOM. The group also offered congratulations and good wishes to Carol Henwood, DO '83, who was named president-elect of ACOFP.

The annual Atlantic Regional Osteopathic Convention was held in April at Bally's in Atlantic City, New Jersey. At the PCOM event gathering, Richard Tancer, DO '84, secretary of the PCOM Alumni Association, presented John LaRatta, DO '93, with a PCOM Alumni Association Certificate of Merit for being inducted as president of the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Tancer also presented Kathryn C. Lambert, DO '88, with a PCOM Alumni Association Certificate of Merit for being the recipient of the 2013 Physician of the Year Award presented by the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

At the end of April, PCOM Trustee John P. Kearney and his wife, Lois, in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Relations & Development, hosted a reception at the Glenmaura National Golf Club. Guests included over 100 alumni, current and prospective students and their parents, pre-med advisers, and hospital administrators. Matthew Schure, PhD, president and CEO, and Kenneth J. Veit, DO '76, MBA, provost, senior vice president for academic affairs and dean, provided information about the College.

Finally, in May, an alumni reception was held in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association's 105th Annual Clinical Assembly (Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel). There David Addley, DO '96, was honored as Affiliated Teacher of the Year by Matthew Schure, PhD, president and CEO, and Kenneth J. Veit, DO '76, MBA, provost, senior vice president for academic affairs and dean.



Top: Dr. Coffey receives a PCOM Alumni Association Certificate of Merit from Dr. Nicholas at the AAO Convocation.

Middle: Gerald Shovlin, DO '12, past John D. Kearney Scholarship recipient, with Mr. Kearney.

Bottom: Drs. Veit (left) and Schure (right) with Dr. Addley, the recipient of the 2013 Affiliated Teacher of the Year award.

Peter Zajac, DO, Prestonsburg, KY, was one of the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award presented by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians during their 2013 Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar held in Las Vegas. Dr. Zajac had his article titled "Overview: Current Clinical Guidelines for the Evaluation, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Management of Dyspepsia" published in the *Osteopathic Family Physician* (March/April 2013).

CLASS OF 1994

Todd R. Banning, DO, Leighton, PA, joined the medical staff at Cardiology Associates.

Robert S. Dolansky, Jr., DO, Breinigsville, PA, was chosen President-Elect of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Dolansky is director of osteopathic medical education for St. Luke's University Health Network and director of medical education at St. Luke's Hospital – Allentown campus.

David M. Jaspan, DO, Philadelphia, PA, was named chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Einstein Healthcare Network. Dr. Jaspan is an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Thomas Jefferson University and a clinical adjunct professor at PCOM.

Joseph Micchia, Jr., DO, Wake Forest, NC, was selected for induction into the 2013 Divisional College Football Hall of Fame. Dr. Micchia is owner of Primary Care Partners along with his wife, **Gina L. Micchia, DO '94**.

CLASS OF 1995

Thomas C. Barone, DO, Philadelphia, PA, was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. He maintains a private practice in Philadelphia and is a clinical assistant professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine at PCOM.

John B. Bulger, MBA, DO, Danville, PA, was appointed by Governor Tom Corbett to the Board

of Directors of the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority. Dr. Bulger serves as chief quality officer at Geisinger Health System in Danville.

Jeffery J. Dunkelberger, DO, Lewisberry, PA, was re-elected Vice-Speaker of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association's House of Delegates. Dr. Dunkelberger is a family physician at Red Cedar Family Practice in Lewisberry and a team physician for East Pennsboro Area School District.

David D. Skillinge, DO, Hellertown, PA, was one of the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award presented by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians during their 2013 Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar held in Las Vegas. Dr. Skillinge was inducted as President of the Northampton County Medical Society.

CLASS OF 1996

David Kuo, DO, Blue Bell, PA, was the recipient of the 2013 Frederick J. Solomon DO



KEITH LEAPHART, DO '03

Solving problems in business and in philanthropy by Colleen Pelc

It was a passion to help others that led Keith Leaphart, DO '03, to a career in physical medicine and rehabilitation. And it is that same passion that has led him into business and into the business of philanthropy.

In February 2013, H. F. "Gerry" Lenfest selected Dr. Leaphart, who serves as chief executive of Replica Creative, a digital media company specializing in design and print, to take over his term as chairman of the Lenfest Foundation, one of Philadelphia's largest philanthropies.

"I look at my designation as chairman as a huge honor and a huge responsibility," Dr. Leaphart says. "The Lenfest Foundation focuses on underserved youth in the Philadelphia region; through the foundation, there is

potential to make an immense impact. Gerry and Marguerite Lenfest are constant stewards for our region."

Under Dr. Leaphart's direction, the Lenfest Foundation will focus its efforts on improving early education opportunities and developing vocational programs through community colleges for high school graduates. Dr. Leaphart, who grew up in a difficult neighborhood, is also passionate about reducing recidivism.

"We want to make sure that doors are open for the area's urban youth," he says.

Dr. Leaphart claims that his biggest success is being a good father to his two children. And he offers advice to young alumni and students as they look toward the future: "The skills that you gain in school are transferrable; even physicians are not limited to medicine. Do not be afraid to always try something else. Through experience, you gain problem-solving skills. Employ these skills and demonstrate the work ethic it takes to be successful."

Award presented by the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society.

CLASS OF 1997

Christopher B. Haas, DO, Cumberland, MD, was the recipient of the Mane Ictum Award presented by the Western Maryland Health System. This award honors an outstanding physician who has joined the medical staff within the last five years.

CLASS OF 1998

Kathleen J. Vedock, DO, Hereford, AZ, had her article "Protecting Your Family from Lead Poisoning" published in the *Sierra Vista Herald* (April 21, 2013).

CLASS OF 1999

Nachal Patel Marra, DO, DuBois, PA, joined the medical staff at Clearfield Center for Children's Care of Clearfield Hospital.

Lt. Col. Marie-France McIntee, USAF, DO, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH, graduated from the Harvard School of Public Health with a master of public health degree in May, and completed the first year of a three-year preventive medicine residency. Dr. McIntee moved from Boston to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where she will finish her residency in aerospace medicine at the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

Ulrick Vieux, DO, New Rochelle, NY, was the recipient of the Preceptor of the Year award presented by Touro College of Osteopathic

Medicine. Dr. Vieux is a psychiatrist at Harlem Hospital.

CLASS OF 2000

Karen Ann Szczepanski, DO, Wayne, PA, works as a neonatologist at CHOP Newborn Care at Pennsylvania Hospital.

John P. Tortu, Jr., DO, Coatesville, PA, moved his office to Parkesburg. Dr. Tortu practices osteopathic manipulative medicine/neuromusculoskeletal medicine and added a salt vault for halotherapy—a unique, natural and safe alternative respiratory and skin treatment. A microclimate mimicking the environment of a salt mine is created by a halogenerator, which produces high concentrations of salt air by grinding the crystals into tiny (0.3 micron) particles.

CLASS OF 2001

Jennifer R. Axelband, DO, Bethlehem, PA, associate medical director of medical critical care education at St. Luke's University Health Network in Bethlehem, has been named Vice Chair of Gift of Life's Medical Advisory and Policy Board.

Millicent A. Channell, DO, Philadelphia, PA, was elected to the Board of Governors of the American Academy of Osteopathy.

John D. Verna, MS/PA-C, Chicago, IL, had his article "Nine Months to Birth Day" published in *Positively Aware* (September/October 2012).

Dana M. Weinstein, DO, Lancaster, PA, joined the medical staff at the Heart Group of Lancaster General Health.

CLASS OF 2002

Nicole H. Bixler, DO, MBA, Land O' Lakes, FL, was elected to the Board of Governors of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. Dr. Bixler practices at Immediate Medicare & Family Doctor of Spring Hill, where she focuses on the geriatric population.

Mark P. Doran, DO, Simpsonville, SC, joined the medical staff at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.

Keri Jo A. McHugh, DO, Spotsylvania, VA, was nominated for Culpeper Regional Hospital's 2012 Physician of the Year award. Dr. McHugh is a board-certified emergency physician on staff at Culpeper Regional Hospital. She lives in Spotsylvania with her husband, **Patrick J. McHugh, DO '02**, and their three children.

Brandon S. Poterjoy, DO, Hatboro, PA, joined the neonatology staff at Abington Memorial Hospital.

CLASS OF 2003

Mark B. Abraham, JD, DO, Lafayette Hill, PA, was featured in "A Young Physician's Perspective" section of *The Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association* (March 2013).

Keith L. Leaphart, MBA, DO, Philadelphia, PA, was elected chairman of the Board of Directors of the Lenfest Corporation [see sidebar story].

Michelle Zetoony Nudell, DO, Clearwater, FL, opened her own practice, DO Sleep Solutions, Inc., in St. Petersburg, specializing in adult and pediatric sleep disorders and adult pulmonary medicine.

Jill Fornal Young, DO, Pennington, NJ, is on the medical staff at Hamilton Physicians Group.

Kristopher F. Young, DO, Pennington, NJ, is on the medical staff at Capital Health Heart Care Specialists.

CLASS OF 2004

Luis R. Cortes, DO, Fort Myers, FL, was appointed medical director of Hope HealthCare Services.

Jessie E. Mallalieu, MS/PA-C, Stroudsburg, PA, joined the staff at The Cosmetic and Skin Surgery Center in Frederick, Maryland.

Brian L. Sperling, DO, Woodbridge, CT, joined the Griffin Faculty Practice Plan network of healthcare specialties. Dr. Sperling practices at Ivy Brook Medical Center.

CLASS OF 2005

Daniel J. Csaszar, DO, Phoenixville, PA, completed a primary care sports medicine fellowship in August at Sacred Heart/Temple Allentown. Dr. Csaszar continues to grow his private practice, Csaszar Institute, which is a family medicine, sports medicine and osteopathic manipulative medicine practice focusing on the care of combat sports athletes.

Marykatharine Nutini, DO, Waltham, MA, accepted a pediatric rehabilitation medicine position at Spaulding Rehabilitation

Hospital/Boston Children's Hospital/
Massachusetts General Hospital.

Joseph M. Zawisza, DO, Orwigsburg, PA, joined his father, **Michael J. Zawisza, DO '86**, in opening a third general medical office in Orwigsburg.

CLASS OF 2006

Brian S. Galler, DO, Mineola, NY, graduated from the interventional cardiology fellowship program at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola. Dr. Galler works with his father, **Steven Galler, DO '73**, at Massapequa Heart Associates, a division of North Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Group.

Richard Jason Hartman, DO, Philadelphia, PA, operates a private practice, Flat Rock Health, on Main Street in Manayunk.

Kyle J. Hubler, DO, State College, PA, joined the medical staff at Tyrone Hospital Orthopedic Clinic.

CLASS OF 2007

Elizabeth A. Blain, DO, is a practicing internist for Wellspring in York.

Joshua P. Hazelton, DO, Philadelphia, PA, completed a surgical critical care fellowship at Cooper University Hospital. In July 2013, Dr. Hazelton joined Cooper's medical staff as an attending trauma surgeon.

Adam R. Paul, DO, Parkville, MD, co-authored a chapter on antibiotic therapy in *Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease*, second edition (Springer, 2012). Dr. Paul also co-authored a chapter on pediatric gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) in *Curbside Consultation in Pediatric GI: 49 Clinical Questions* (Slack Incorporated, 2013). He completed his pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition fellowship at the University of Maryland.

Stephanie L. White, DO, Los Angeles, CA, was appointed assistant dean for clinical education at Western University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

CLASS OF 2008

Nicholas C. Avitabile, DO, Malverne, NY, graduated as chief resident from St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx. Dr. Avitabile was selected for an emergency ultrasound fellowship at St. Luke's – Roosevelt Hospital Center/Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in Manhattan.

Eric M. Slotkin, DO, Harrisburg, PA, has completed his chief resident year in orthopaedics at PinnacleHealth. Dr. Slotkin will be starting a fellowship at The Cleveland Clinic in adult reconstruction for the upcoming year. Following the completion of his fellowship, Dr. Slotkin will join Orthopaedic Associates of Reading.

Jaime F. Slotkin, DO, Harrisburg, PA, completed her year as chief resident in general surgery at PinnacleHealth. Dr. Slotkin joined the medical staff at Flynn and Hanley Surgical Associates in Reading.

Patricia J. Thomas, DO, Glassboro, NJ, joined the medical staff at Inspira Medical Group in Centerton as a family medicine physician.

Graham V. Vigliotta, DO, Norristown, PA, had his article "Dementia: Alzheimer's or Something Else? New Guidelines Encourage Early Diagnosis Treatment" published in *The Mercury* (April 8, 2013). Dr. Vigliotta is an independent member of the medical staff at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center.

Svetlana Zakharchenko, DO, Brooklyn, NY, completed her emergency ultrasound fellowship at NYU-Bellevue. She was appointed emergency ultrasound director at Hackensack University Medical Center.

CLASS OF 2009

Carolyn Green Bernacki, DO, Delran, NJ, graduated from a general psychiatry residency at Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine (formerly UMDNJ-SOM) in June 2013, where she served as chief resident. Dr. Bernacki is currently a child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at RowanSOM, with anticipated graduation in June 2014.

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AWARDS

HENRIETTA AND JACK AVART MEMORIAL AWARD

Andrew L. O'Hara, DO '08

CITY AVENUE PHYSICIANS AWARDS

Matthew James Meeker, DO '10

Mary Elizabeth Merlini, DO '10

Gopi Vora, DO '10

CLINICAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Vincent Cortes, MD, Reading Hospital
Gerald Diefes, MD, Roxborough Memorial
Hospital

Kenneth Hoellein, MD, Chestnut Hill
Hospital

Jessica Niewodowski, DO '05,
Crozer-Chester Medical Center

DEAN'S APPRECIATION AWARDS

Brian L. Penza, DO '07

Erik G. Polan, DO '07

Scott B. Rosenberg, MD

Erik I. Soiferman, DO '99

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARDS

Kathleen Hain, administrative
assistant, residency programs

Karen Murphy, office manager,
general surgery

INTERN AND RESIDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Erik Christopher Freeland, DO '08,
orthopedic surgery resident

Nicholas James Madden, DO '12,
general surgery intern

Carmen Piccolo, III, DO, general
surgery resident

Jonathan B. Sutter, DO '10,
internal medicine resident

Gopi Vora, DO '10,
internal medicine resident

Courtney Walsh, DO, internal
medicine intern

H. JEFFREY TOURIGIAN, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Amy Lee Curry, DO '09

VICKERS FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENT AWARD

Mary Elizabeth Merlini, DO '10

DANIEL L. WISELY SURGICAL "PERSON OF THE YEAR"

Lina Marie Rico, DO '11



Top: Drs. Madden and Rico.

Bottom: Dr. Vora, a GA-PCOM graduate,
with her family.



JOEL GARBLIK, DDS, MS/FM '09

Living life without regrets by Colleen Pelc

When a disabling injury caused Joel Garblik, DDS, MS/FM '09, to leave his dentistry practice, he could have easily packed up his dreams of living a fulfilling life as a dentist and provider for his family. But Dr. Garblik isn't like most people.

Instead of retiring, Dr. Garblik decided to head back to school and study forensic medicine.

"While most of my classmates were advancing their careers or

making themselves more valuable in their existing jobs, I was looking at a new field for the first time. Dental forensics had always been an area of personal interest to me. However, being twice the age of most of my classmates, I never expected my decision to go back to school to really take me anywhere," he says.

But, after earning his master's degree, Dr. Garblik found that his decision did take him places. With his new knowledge, built upon his solid dentistry experiences, Dr. Garblik was hired as a clinical instructor at PCOM, and currently lectures on forensic odontology and oral pathology. He also serves as a member of the FBI's National Dental Image Repository Review Panel, where he reviews extensive dental records through the Criminal Justice Information System's database.

"I once heard this quote: 'Before middle age don't fear. After middle age don't regret.' And looking back, that's just what I have done. I returned to school in my 50s, knowing job prospects were slim during the nation's economic downturn. You can't be afraid to take a chance and do what you want to do," he says.

"I want to be a good provider, father and spouse. In my career, I've always just wanted to be happy, and I think that is reflected in a lot of what I have done," Dr. Garblik says.

"It's never too late."

Dr. Garblik leads a forensic dig.

Amber M. Brody, DO, Long Beach, NY, has been appointed clinical assistant professor at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Brody is the assistant coordinator in the Department of Primary Care at Touro.

Helen A. Chang, DO, Riverside, CA, is completing an advanced clinical anesthesia fellowship in the Department of Anesthesiology at Stanford University Medical Center in Stanford.

Jill R. Crosson, MBA, DO, Allentown, PA, graduated from St. Luke's Hospital Sports Medicine Fellowship in June 2013. Dr. Crosson joined the medical staff at Orthopedics Associates of Allentown.

Peter J. Gambino, DO, Tifton, GA, joined the medical staff at Tift Regional Medical Center.

Philip V. Krick, DO, New York, NY, was accepted into the New York – Presbyterian Columbia and Cornell Child and Adolescent Fellowship Program.

Brian K. Yorkgitis, DO, Philadelphia, PA, became the first osteopathic physician to be named chief surgical resident at Temple University Hospital on July 1, 2013.

CLASS OF 2010

Catherine A. Liebman, DO, Philadelphia, PA, completed her residency in the OMM department at PCOM. Dr. Liebman joined the

medical staff at Rittenhouse Women's Wellness Center in Philadelphia and Narberth.

CLASS OF 2011

Dustin D. Flannery, DO, Woodbury Heights, NJ, was named chief resident of pediatrics at the Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children/Jefferson Medical College for 2014–2015.

Lena N. Sifen, MS/PA-C, Virginia Beach, VA, was profiled in the spring 2013 issue of *Hampton Roads Magazine*, which recognizes outstanding nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

Lt. Patrick M. Thomae, USN, DO (GA-PCOM), Pensacola, FL, graduated from Naval Aerospace Medicine Flight Surgery School. Dr. Thomae is on active duty at Training Wing 6 in Pensacola.

CLASS OF 2012

Tracy J. Hills, DO, Haverford, PA, was named "Volunteer of the Week" by *Main Line Times* (April 24, 2013) for her work at The Family Lives On Foundation. Dr. Hills is doing her pediatrics residency at the DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Delaware.

Captain Kimberley Arthur Maxwell, DO, Fayetteville, NC, was recognized as "Outstanding Intern of the Year" at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg. This is the top honor for a first-year trainee. Dr. Maxwell

was selected to begin her medical residency training in family medicine at Fort Bragg.

TOP DOCS

Delaware Today (September 14, 2012):

Barry L. Bakst, DO '82,
Wilmington, DE – Pain Management and
Physical Medicine – Rehabilitation

Robert J. Brus, DO '95,
Boothwyn, PA – Hematology

Thomas J. Burke, DO '97,
Boothwyn, PA – Dermatological Surgery

Steve G. Cozamanis, DO '95, Ocean City,
NJ – Hematology

James Fierro, DO '88, Wilmington, DE –
Family Medicine

Arnold B. Glassman, DO '86, Broomall,
PA – Electromyography and Physical
Medicine – Rehabilitation

Howard B. Goldstein, DO '00, Garnet
Valley, PA – Urogynecology

Stephen J. Kushner, DO '88, Newark, DE –
Family Medicine

William Sommers, DO '82, Newark, DE –
Nephrology

Anthony A. Vasile, Sr., DO '82,
Wilmington, DE – Pulmonology

Main Line Today (Spring 2013):

Mark A. Ginsburg, DO '03, Aston, PA –
Otolaryngology and Plastic Surgery

Lisa D. Held, DO '04, Radnor, PA –
Anesthesiology

Norman A. Leopold, DO '68, Chester, PA –
Neurology

Donald M. McCarren, DO '89, Media,
PA – Neurology

Joseph J. McComb, III, DO '00,
Broomall, PA – Anesthesiology

John J. Orris, DO '95, Chester Springs, PA –
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Philadelphia Magazine (May 2013):

Gary A. Aaronson, DO '83, New Hope,
PA – Pulmonary Disease

Gilbert E. D'Alonzo, Jr., DO '77,
Philadelphia, PA – Pulmonary Medicine

Robert H. Debbs, DO '89, Voorhees, NJ –
Maternal & Fetal Medicine

Jamison S. Jaffe, DO '00, Ambler, PA –
Urology

Lee M. Pachter, DO '83, Elkins Park, PA –
Pediatrics

Joseph A. Rigotti, DO '84, Horsham, PA –
Internal Medicine

Brian D. Rosenthal, DO '98, Blue Bell,
PA – Urology

On a Personal Note

Sonia Saporito Alford, MS/PA-C '00, Easton, PA, and her husband, Robert, welcomed identical twin girls, Sydnee and Samantha, born on December 10, 2012. Sydnee and Samantha join big sister Haley (age 9).

Elizabeth A. Blain, DO '07, York, PA, and her husband, Geoff, welcomed their three daughters, April Michelle, Charlotte Anne and Mary Elizabeth, born on July 23, 2012.

David M. Brill, DO '86, Bay Village, OH, married a friend from high school, Karen Elizabeth Meyer, on February 23, 2013. They were reacquainted at a class reunion.

Douglas L. Charles, DO '06, Elizabethville, PA, and his wife, Christine, welcomed their daughter Naomi Rose, born on September 23, 2012. Little Naomi joins big sisters Margaret (7), Amelia (5) and Gretchen (2).

Steven K. Costalas, DO '93, Broomall, PA, married Kimberly Peda on October 28, 2012.

Daniel J. Csaszar, DO '05, Phoenixville, PA, and his wife, Kerrie, welcomed son Thomas Sullivan, born on May 25, 2013. Little Thomas joins big brother Alex (18 months).

Jared J. Dart, MS/Psy '11 (EdS/Psy '14), Manassas, VA, married Caroline Saporito on September 15, 2012.

Kelly M. DeVoogd, DO '05, McDonald, PA, welcomed daughter Samantha Ann, born on October 30, 2012. Little Samantha joins big brother Alexander James (2).

Tara Budinetz Field, DO '07, West Hartford, CT, and her husband, Terrence, are the proud parents of Lillian Ann (Lilly), born on November 2, 2012.

Richard Jason Hartman, DO '06, and **Catherine A. Liebman, DO '10**, Philadelphia, PA, were married on Dr. Liebman's birthday, June 8, 2013, at Mountain Springs Lake Resort in Reeders, Pennsylvania.

Paul D. Hierholzer, DO '90, Egg Harbor Township, NJ, and his wife, Laura C. James-Hierholzer, DO, are the proud parents of Sofia Teresa, born on October 10, 2012.

Melanie Rompella Justice, MS/Psy '05, Thousand Oaks, CA, and her husband, Andy, welcomed their son, Graham Richard, born on January 11, 2013. Graham Richard joins big sisters Sabina (age 5) and Ravelle (age 3).

Brian F. Seaman, DO '04, Powell, OH, and his wife, Holly McCreary, are the proud parents of Greyson Michael, born on August 23, 2012.

Eric Slotkin, DO '08, and his wife, **Jaime F. Slotkin, DO '08**, Harrisburg, PA, welcomed son Nicholas John, born on November 18, 2012. Nicholas John joins big brother Harper (age 2).

Douglas A. Smith, DO '11, Philadelphia, PA, and his wife, Amanda, are the proud parents of Aubrey Barbara, born on February 3, 2013. Dr. Smith is a second-year emergency medicine resident at Albert Einstein Medical Center.

Karen Ann Szczepanski, DO '00, Wayne, PA, and her husband, Brett Engelkraut, welcomed their daughter, Margaret Mary, born on November 25, 2012. Margaret Mary joins big sister Jane Amelia (age 2½).

James A. Thiel, DO '06, and his wife **Lisa M. Thiel, DO '06**, Mechanicsburg, PA, are the proud parents of Emilia Quinn, born on April 24, 2013.

Mark T. Watkins, DO '86, Exton, PA, married Serge Lataev on May 31, 2013, in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Elana E. Weinstein, MS/Psy '06, EdS/Psy '09, PsyD '12, Wynnewood, PA, and her husband, Kenneth Brownstein, are the proud parents of Noah Benjamin, born on March 15, 2013.



Alford babies



Blain babies



Baby Charles



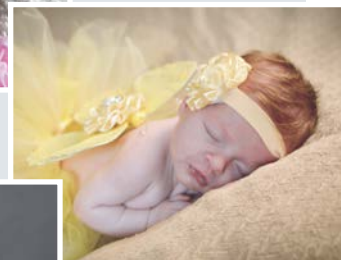
Csaszar children



Baby DeVoogd



Engelkraut children
(see Szczepanski)



Baby Field



Baby Seaman



Baby Smith



JESS VILLEGAS, MS/ODL '13 (GA-PCOM)

Executive turned entrepreneur
by Wendy Alpine

What makes a great leader? How do you encourage connection and collaboration among employees for organizational health?

These are some of

the topics explored in the MS degree in Organizational Development & Leadership (ODL) at Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

One of six members of the program's inaugural class is Jess Villegas, MS/ODL '13, whose 20-plus-year career includes executive and management roles in the manufacturing industry.

"Leadership and management have always been pervasive in my thinking," Mr. Villegas says. "I've always incorporated reflection of the larger purpose, but never had a structure or vehicle other than my own intuition."

After considering a master's degree in philosophy and religious studies, he decided he wanted a more practical approach that would reinforce his leadership background and holistic thinking. Mr. Villegas liked the fact that he could incorporate his approach into the ODL program.

"Organizational development is about looking at a business and understanding that it's a dynamic environment and that each person has the ability to positively affect the organization," Mr. Villegas says. "It's about trying to mitigate the negative impacts of a very hierarchical structure and figuring out how to make all the employees in the organization equally responsible to positively achieve the business objectives."

Since he's graduated from the program, Mr. Villegas has been hired as a consultant for the company he used to work for, helping foster communication and collaboration among plant supervisors and workers. He also is helping the company transition to a new plant manager.

"There was a lack of commitment to the organization's mission, poor morale and little communication between supervisors and workers," he says. "My opportunity is to help them understand their responsibility to the organization and the importance of communicating and depersonalizing situations."

Jeff Branch, EdD (far left), and Elizabeth Levine, MA (far right), faculty members in Organizational Development and Leadership, with members of the Class of 2013: Mr. Villegas; Gayle Hayes, MS/ODL; Triba Gary-Davis, MS/ODL; Greg Davis, MS/ODL; Kimberly Hicks, MS/ODL; and Ryan Taylor, MS/ODL.

GEORGIA CAMPUS – PCOM ALUMNI/STUDENT NETWORKING NIGHT

On April 26, 2013, the Office of Alumni Relations & Development hosted an alumni/student networking night at Dave & Buster's in Lawrenceville, Georgia. More than two dozen alumni met and enjoyed the company of third- and fourth-year DO and pharmacy students.

Alisa Toney, MS, alumni relations & development officer, GA-PCOM (front left), is pictured with some of the students in attendance.



Lawrence I. Barr, DO '87, Cherry Hill, NJ, was recognized as a "Top Physician in Orthopedic Surgery" by *South Jersey Magazine* (August 2012).

Michael J. Orris, DO '00, Paradise Valley, AZ, was recognized as a "Top Doctor in Bariatric Medicine" by *Phoenix Magazine* (April 2013).

ALUMNI/PARENTS SPONSORING GRADUATES FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Hal S. Bendit, DO '84
Nicole Ruszczak, DO '13

J. Steven Blake, DO '89
Sheila Aseto, DO '13
Samantha Benjamin, DO '13
Tiffany Billue, DO '13
Demarie Conteh-Morgan, DO '13
Kayla Cort, DO '13
Karla Curet, DO '13
Afua Doodoo, DO '13
Patience Ekperi, DO '13
Petagaye English, DO '13
Rochelle Grant, DO '13 (GA-PCOM)
Niranjan Gunasekaran, DO '13
Dermond Henry, DO '13
Michael Itidiare, DO '13
Richard Kline, DO '13
Sadie Mirabal, DO '13
Rochanda Mitchell, DO '13
Obinna Mmagu, DO '13
La Trena Perkins, DO '13
David Pierre, DO '13
Claria Prior, DO '13
Tyana Raynor, DO '13
Amber Rubal, DO '13
John Sobuto, DO '13
Michael Stanley, DO '13

Deborah A. Bren, DO '84, and Mr. Michael L. Wynosky
Adam Richard Haydt, DO '13

David Coffey, DO '84
Andrew Barranco, DO '13 (GA-PCOM)
Serennah Harding, DO '13 (GA-PCOM)

Ronald Cowen, DO '66
Scott Michael Norberg, DO '13

Lisa M. Frison, DO '83
Deirdre Marie Lahey, DO '13

James Guenther, DO '85, and Mrs. Joyce Guenther
Christine Guenther, DO '13

William Henwood, DO '76, and Carol Henwood, DO '83
John Dahdah, DO '13

Suzanne Kelley, DO '77
Nadia Hasan, DO '13

Joseph Kuchinski, DO '86
Jenna Arment, DO '13
Chad Smith, DO '13 (GA-PCOM)

Joseph P. Quintiliani, DO '84
Joseph P. Quintiliani, Jr., DO '13

GRADUATE PROGRAM RECEPTIONS

Various graduate program alumni and student events were held this spring/summer.

In April, the Office of Alumni Relations & Development hosted a networking event at Bourbon Blue in Philadelphia's Manayunk neighborhood for alumni and students of the Counseling and Clinical Health Psychology program.

In May, a reception for Physician Assistant program alumni and students was held at the Renaissance DC Downtown Hotel in Washington in conjunction with the American Academy of Physician Assistants' 41st Annual Physician Assistant Conference. The reception was hosted by John Cavenagh, PhD, PA-C, professor and chairman, and Laura Molloy, MMS, PA-C, assistant professor and didactic director.

In June, three gatherings were held at the Manayunk Brewery: a reception for School Psychology program alumni, a reception for Clinical Psychology program alumni and students, and a reception for Organizational Development and Leadership program alumni. During the last event, Shanda Lucas, MS/ODL '09, ODL Alumni Board representative, welcomed the newest ODL program graduates into the PCOM alumni community.

Above: Pictured left to right: Jessica White, MS '12; Talia Maor-Matsliach, MS '11; and Elizabeth Gosch, PhD, ABPP, director, counseling and clinical health psychology, at Bourbon Blue.

Bottom: Pictured left to right: David Poponi, PsyD '09, alumni association board director; Ramona Patillo, PsyD '13; Tanya Ray, MS/ODL '09, coordinator, school psychology programs; and Frank Edwards, PsyD '13, at the June school psychology event.



E-MAIL YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS TO MADELINE LAW: MADELINE@PCOM.EDU

In Memoriam

Robert P. Bass, Jr., JD, DO '55,
Philadelphia, PA, January 30, 2013.

Elizabeth C. Bell, DO '83, Rehoboth
Beach, DE, April 7, 2013.

David H. Clymer, DO '74, Shirleysburg,
PA, July 6, 2013.

Paul L. Coniglio, DO '67, Odessa, FL,
October 11, 2012.

Dominic R. DeCristo, DO '43, Folcroft,
PA, June 30, 2013.

Allan F. Fehlandt, Jr., DO '89,
Wilmington, DE, August 6, 2012.

David H. Fliegelman, DO '55, Whittier,
CA, April 16, 2013.

George W. Frison, Jr., DO '55, Sanford,
FL, February 8, 2013.

Murray Geller, DO '53, Saint Petersburg,
FL, April 24, 2013.

Franklin H. Glassman, DO '50, Snyder,
NY, June 6, 2013.

A. Alvin Greber, DO '58, Aventura, FL,
April 6, 2013.

Virgil E. Haws, DO '50, Ormond Beach,
FL, October 3, 2012.

Michael J. Kirschbaum, DO '75, Cherry
Hill, NJ, April 1, 2013.

Ronald A. Kirschner, DO '66, Bala
Cynwyd, PA, July 4, 2013.

Donald Klein, DO '55, Novi, MI,
December 22, 2012.

Allan E. Koff, DO '69, Elkins Park, PA,
April 29, 2013.

Mark D. Kornhaber, DO '77, Coconut
Creek, FL, May 21, 2013.

George Kotsch, DO '52, Largo, FL,
January 8, 2013.

Salvatore E. LoBello, DO '58, Las Vegas,
NV, May 10, 2013.

Jon J. O'Brien, SJ, DO '75, Washington,
DC, July 31, 2013.

Timothy D. Partridge, DO '95, Exeter,
NH, June 25, 2013.

David B. Plone, DO '68, Scottsdale, AZ,
May 7, 2013.

Vincent S. Reina, DO '66, Swarthmore,
PA, February 18, 2013.

John A. Rodgers, Sr., DO '60, Shelter
Island Heights, NY, February 23, 2013.

David C. Rothmeyer, DO '50, Fernley,
NV, February 6, 2013.

Lane M. Sandler, DO '91, Toms River, NJ,
August 9, 2013.

Carl Strauss, DO '45, Brooklyn, NY,
August 6, 2013.

Leonard J. Tierno, DO '55, Ocean City,
NJ, August 21, 2013.

Robert T. Warhola, DO '67, Port Arthur,
TX, May 12, 2013.

Margaret Borkey Whitehead, RN '46,
Cape Cod, MA, June 10, 2013.

Edward Zimmerman, DO '54, Wyncote,
PA, June 15, 2013.



John Cottrel Kermode, PhD
June 10, 1949 – July 31, 2013

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic
Medicine is deeply saddened by the
sudden loss of Dr. Kermode.

Dr. Kermode, professor of pharmaceu-
tical sciences, PCOM School of
Pharmacy, was born at the British airbase
in Singapore. He grew up and received
most of his education in England—
including a bachelor's and a master's
degree in the natural sciences from St.
John's College, Cambridge University,
and a doctoral degree in biochemistry
from the University of London. He
moved to the United States in 1983.

Prior to joining PCOM School of
Pharmacy, Dr. Kermode served for more
than 15 years on the faculty of the
Department of Pharmacology and
Toxicology at the University of
Mississippi Medical Center, rising from
the rank of assistant professor to full
professor.

Awarded Teacher of the Year seven
times (once at GA-PCOM), Dr.
Kermode was indeed a dedicated educa-
tor and student mentor. He had exten-
sive experience teaching pharmacology
and biostatistics. He was also an avid
researcher; his focus on signaling mecha-
nisms in blood platelets and the role of
such signaling in arterial thrombosis
gained him funding from the American
Heart Association, the National Science
Foundation and the American Health
Assistance Foundation.

Dr. Kermode's office was always open
to anyone. He treated everyone with
great respect and lived his life full of
optimism, humor and love.

[continued from page 34]

Melissa N. Schwartz, DO '91
Hilary Caruso, DO '13

John S. Stevens, Jr., DO '73
Sean Perrine, DO '13
Gregory Wanner, DO '13

Richard Tancer, DO '84
Sergio Perez, DO '13

**Richard Troum, DO '85, and Mrs. Patricia
Troum**
Matthew A. Troum, DO '13

Michael Weiner, DO '91
Gregory Baker, DO '13 (Air Force)
Alice Blizman, DO '13 (Navy)
John Levri, DO '13 (Army)

Donors for Britany Faith Epstein, DO '13:

Joyce Cherry
Jack Dubis
Sandy & Barry Friter
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hayoun
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Levine
Patricia Mays
Mary & Albert Meloni
Dr. Julie Moberg
Ms. Fran Northridge
Mr. & Mrs. William Potts, Jr.
Shari & Greg Reid
Maria Roa Serrano
Clyde & Jude Yost

Lasting Impressions with Untold Consequences

by Joseph A. Dieterle, DO '70, FACOP, FAAP



"The eye of an eagle, the heart of a lion and the hand of a woman": So were the qualities ascribed to physicians in "Medic," a 1950s TV show that captured my attention as a young boy. At that time, I already possessed an interest in all things medical—a curiosity due in part to a maternal seed planting, and moreover to the influence of my family's physician, Dr. Robert A. Hibbs.

A classic representation of his day, Dr. Hibbs worked alone in his office, the library of a stately old home with stained woodwork, large pillars and fireplace. He employed no receptionist or nurse. He personally cared for his patients and their families.

It was Dr. Hibbs who gifted me with the physical supplies of a physician: old stethoscopes, head mirrors, tongue blades and glass syringes, all of which filled my "doctor bag." He delivered me, and actually handed me to my parents at 19 days of age after an adoption that he arranged (I discovered this at age 62!). Dr. Hibbs tended to my various childhood ailments via frequent house calls, made sure I had the immunizations of the day, and as I grew, counseled and mentored me about becoming a physician. A humble, hard-working, quiet man, he guided me without pressure or grandiose enthusiasm, giving me space to develop my own direction.

It helps a man immensely to be a bit of a hero-worshipper, and the stories of the lives of the masters of medicine do much to stimulate our ambition and rouse our sympathies.

—Sir William Osler

Sometime during my junior year of high school, Dr. Hibbs agreed to fill out my physical for the biology curriculum and sit me down for a heart-to-heart talk about college, since neither of my parents had graduated from high school. Prepared to meet him on a Sunday, I called to clear the time and was informed by his son that he had died of a stroke in the office the day before at the age of 56. I was stunned, left to flounder without my compass. My parents were moved to tears by the passing of this kind, warm and nurturing man—the man who had given them their son.

Dr. Hibbs' son and wife later met with me, imparting kind words and their father's prized office materials. They said he would have wanted me to use them: home visit bags, a home delivery kit complete with handheld ether administration prongs, an ENT kit, stethoscopes and old textbooks.

I observe the physician with the same diligence as the disease.

—John Donne

As time passed, my family needed another physician. Two young osteopathic physicians were in practice in our area, and

they ministered to our family. Stuart Baer, DO '63, and John C. Crawford, DO '56, fixed the "dings" and tended to the illnesses I encountered during the remainder of my high school and college days and cared warmly for my parents. Each in his own way provided counsel as I was "banged and buffed" through college. They may have never known it, but they became beacons for me, introducing me to Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (and writing letters of recommendation for my application). And the rest, as they say, is history.

The art of medicine was to be properly learned only from its practice and its exercise. —Thomas Sydenham

I'm sure many of us have similar stories of poignant moments or eras in our lives—indelible markers or editorial comments in the margins of our careers left by those who influenced us in some way. Many names come to mind as I review my own professional career. I think of those who influenced my career choice as a pediatrician: Dr. Frank Souders and Dr. Thomas Santucci, Sr. I hold special memories of Dr. David S. Smith at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, who set the academic standards for the house staff and inspired us to be thorough in our work.

I only wish I had more deeply appreciated, as a young man, the impact so many people had on my career. I now proffer a long-overdue thank you to all of them, most deceased, some now retired.

I recount and share this history to remind myself and my colleagues of our potential impact on others, not only through our medical ministrations, but through our behaviors, our warmth, our counsel and our caring. Others are "watching" with or without our knowledge. We may or may not have an incalculable impact on them.

To me the ideal doctor would be a man endowed with profound knowledge of life and of the soul, intuitively divining any suffering or disorder of whatever kind, and restoring peace by his mere presence. —Henri Amiel

Lasting impressions with untold consequences . . .

Dr. Dieterle retired from pediatric practice with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, South Jersey offices, in January 2012, after a long and distinguished career in pediatric medicine. At the time of his retirement, he had served as a member of the staff of Shore Medical Center (Somers Point, New Jersey) for 23 years.

In 1974, Dr. Dieterle joined the staff of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine; he was one of the earliest members of President Thomas M. Rowland, Jr.'s, whole-time clinical faculty. In 1980, he was named chairman and professor of the Department of Pediatrics, and in 1983, the director of medical education. In 1985, he was promoted to vice president of academic affairs and dean, a position he held until 1989. He presently serves on the PCOM Board of Trustees and was named PCOM professor emeritus in June 2013.



PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
4180 City Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131-1695

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Upper Darby, PA
Permit No. 167



ON THE GO >>>

